Currently in the grips of the Foreign prison drama "Oz." Lots of hard-boiled characters and hard-core language make it interesting. Definitely recommend it for those watching "Sukapa" or "Kebuna." Currently on Super Channel.

Who am I anyway?

Photo of the Author (Recommended TV Series Logo)

Hourou*musuko by Takako Shimura

放浪息子

3

志村貴子

BEAM COMIX

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エンターブレイン

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放浪息子 3

Hourou*musuko

Translation by **BOKE**
English Adaptation by **DRAKE RAIN**
Proofreading by **MISS ERICA & JIJI**
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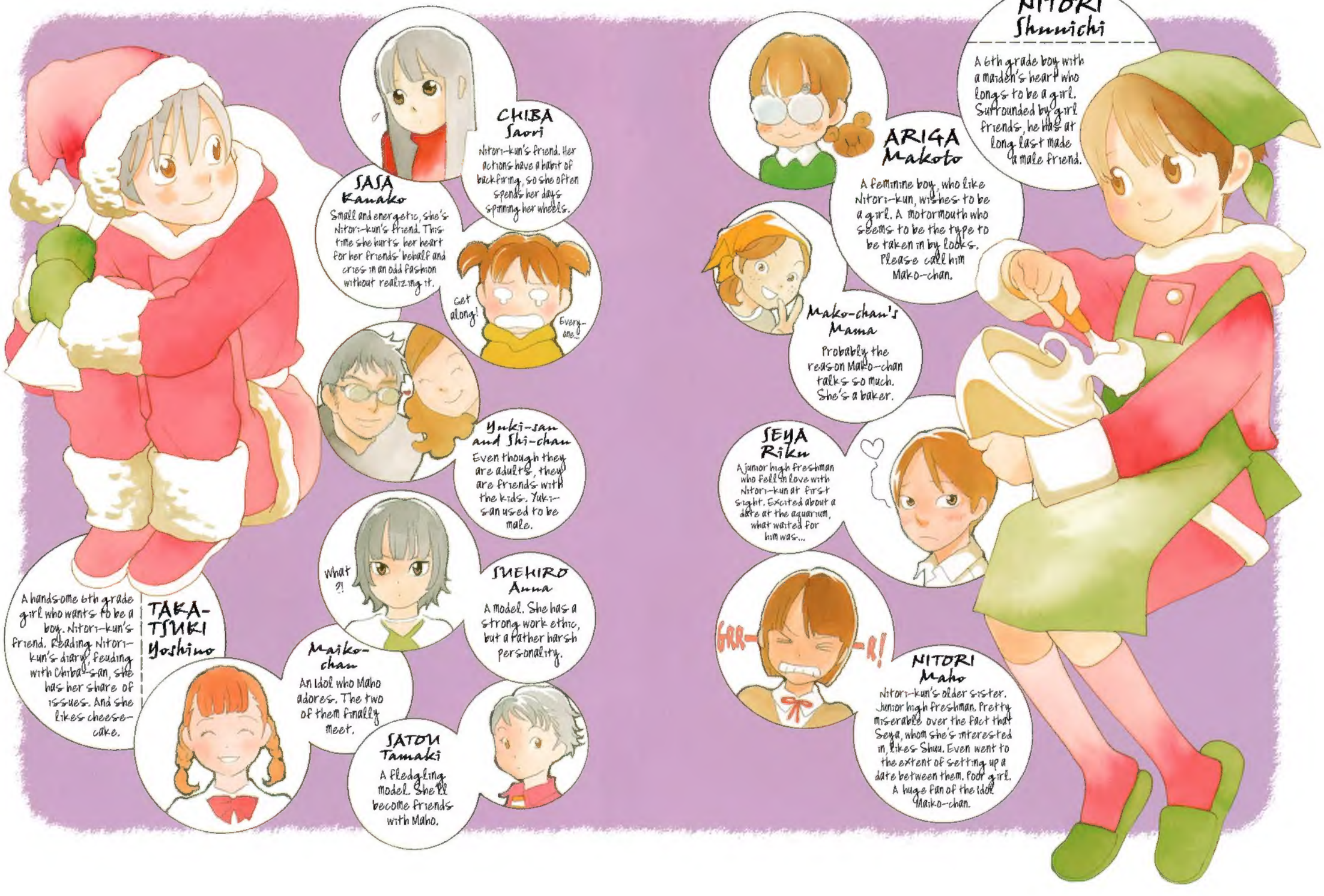
NITORI
Shunichi
A 6th grade boy with a maiden's heart who longs to be a girl. Surrounded by girl friends, he has at long last made a male friend.
ARIGA
Makoto
A feminine boy, who like Nitori-kun, wishes to be a girl. A motormouth who seems to be the type to be taken in by looks. Please call him Mako-chan.
Mako-chan's Mama
Probably the reason Mako-chan talks so much. She's a baker.
SEYA
Riku
A junior high freshman who fell in love with Nitori-kun at first sight. Excited about a date at the aquarium, what waited for him was...
GRR—
—R!
NITORI
Maho
Nitori-kun's older sister. Junior high freshman. Pretty miserable over the fact that Seya, whom she's interested in, likes Shuu. Even went to the extent of setting up a date between them. Poor girl. A huge fan of the idol Maiko-chan.
CHIBA
Saori
Nitori-kun's friend. Her actions have a habit of backfiring, so she often spends her days spinning her wheels.
SASA
Kanako
Small and energetic, she's Nitori-kun's friend. This time she hurts her heart for her friends' behalf and cries in an odd fashion without realizing it.
Get along!
Every-one...
Yuki-san and Shi-chan
Even though they are adults, they are friends with the kids. Yuki-san used to be male.
What ?!
SUEHIRO
Anna
A model. She has a strong work ethic, but a rather harsh personality.
Maiko-chan
An idol who Maho adores. The two of them finally meet.
SATOU
Tamaki
A fledgling model. She'll become friends with Maho.
TAKA-TSUKI
Yoshino
A handsome 6th grade girl who wants to be a boy. Nitori-kun's friend. Reading Nitori-kun's diary, feuding with Chiba-san, she has her share of issues. And she likes cheese-cake.

もくじ
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Chapter 23 Takatsuki Yoshino's Determination 125
Chapter 24 It Keeps Getting Weirder 149
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* "Older sister."

18 Together with Onee-chan*

SHUU!

OK...

ONE O'CLOCK AT SCHOOL.

CALL THEM BACK!

BUT I'VE GOT TO GO TO SCHOOL.

LET'S GO.

OK! WE'RE LEAVING!

Haaah... I'M NERVOUS!

YES'M.

BE CAREFUL, OK?

ONCE IT'S OVER, YOU COME RIGHT HOME.

Hmm...

WE'RE MAKING A WEB PAGE...

...ABOUT OUR SCHOOL TRIP.

SO WHY WERE YOU GOING TO SCHOOL ON A SUNDAY?

THIS ONLY HAPPENS TODAY!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT TODAY.

YOU THOUGHT THIS DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU, DIDN'T YOU?

IF I MISS THIS CHANCE, I'LL HAVE TO WAIT ANOTHER SIX MONTHS.

KATHUNK

OH MAN... I'M *SO* NERVOUS!

KATHUNK

KATHUNK

PSSH

Ah, I'M GONNA DIE!

I'M GOING HOME!

4F Meeting Room C
Meeting

2F Meeting Room A
Audition Room

5F Dressing Room
Cloak Room

3F Audition Receptionist

YOU DIDN'T EVEN TRY TO STOP ME FROM GOING HOME!

EVERYONE'S SO PRETTY...

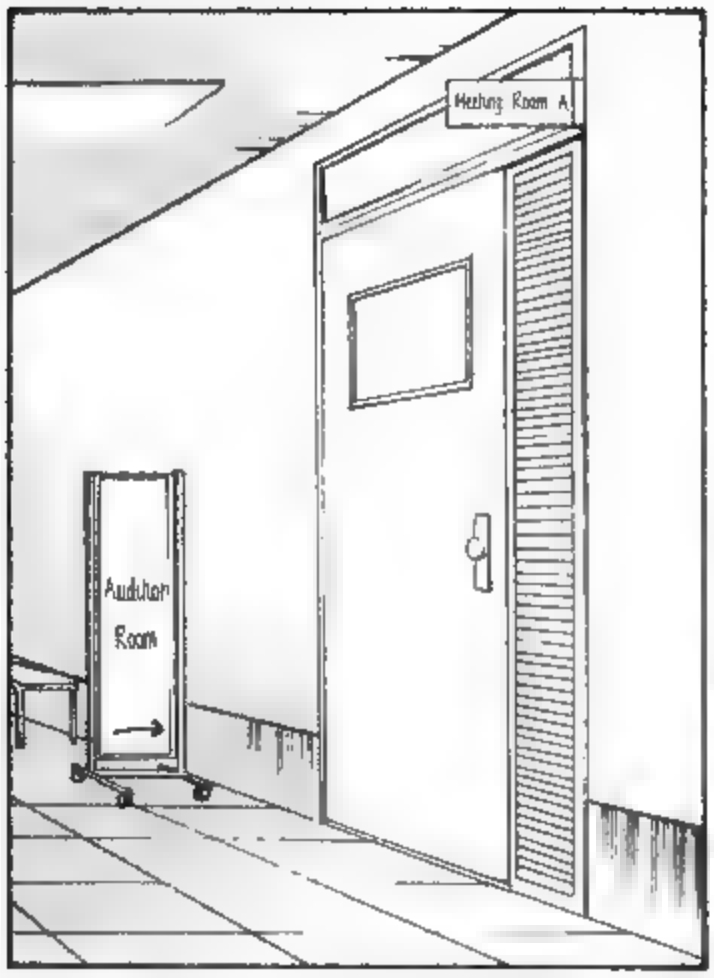
IT'S GETTING CLOSER AND CLOSER...

NUMBERS 20 THROUGH 29, PLEASE ENTER.

I WONDER IF THEY'RE ALL AIMING FOR SHOW BIZ...

I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT!

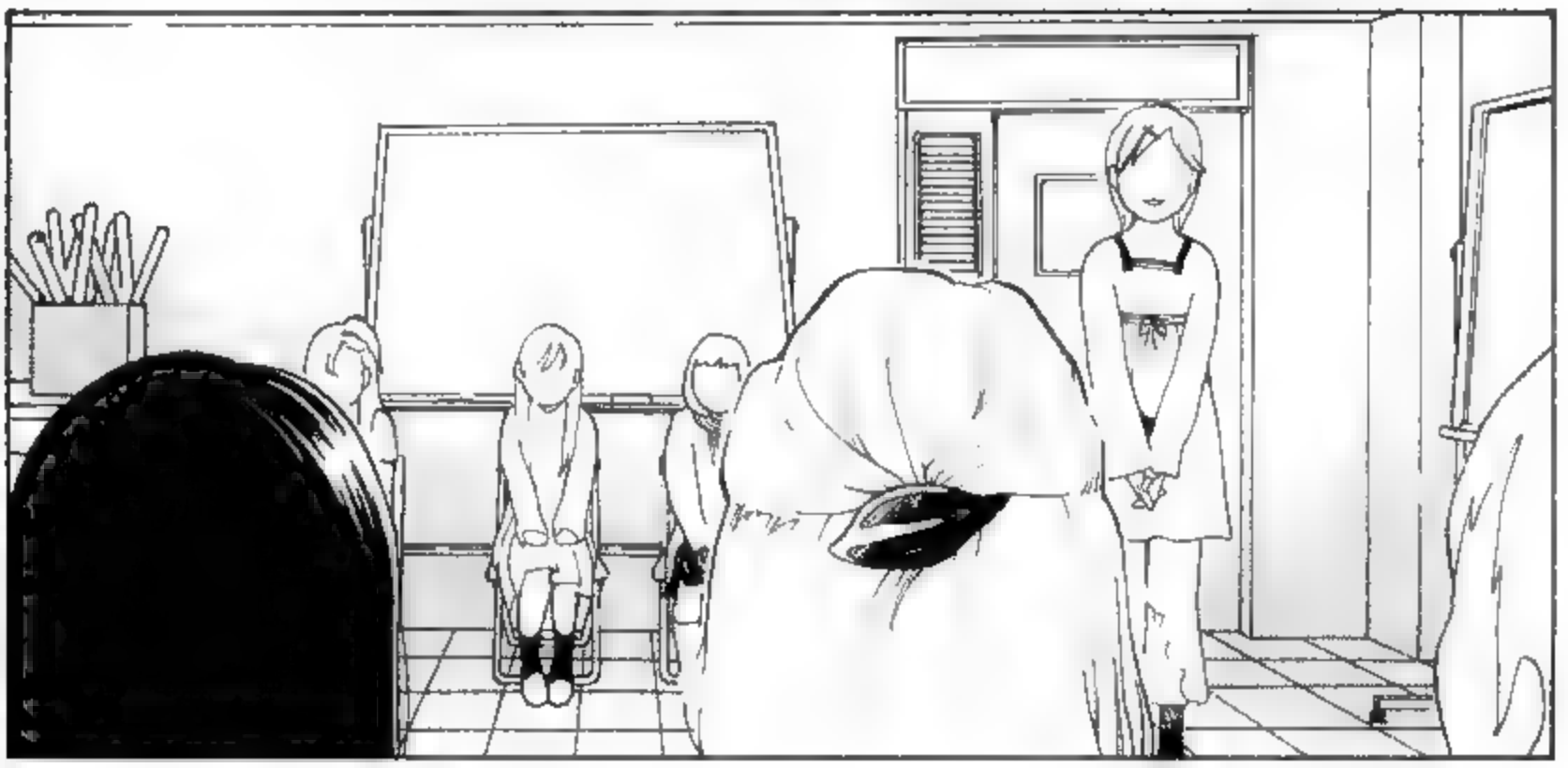
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO PUT MORE PRESSURE ON ME?!


Meeting Room A
Audition Room

I GET THE FEELING THAT I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS PURE FEELINGS FOR MAIKO-CHAN.

YOU COME TOO!

GOOD LUCK, ONEE-CHAN!
NUMBERS 40 THROUGH 49, PLEASE.
UH-OH!



I CAME WITH MY YOUNGER BROTHER TODAY.

Oh...

MY...

WHAT ⁉

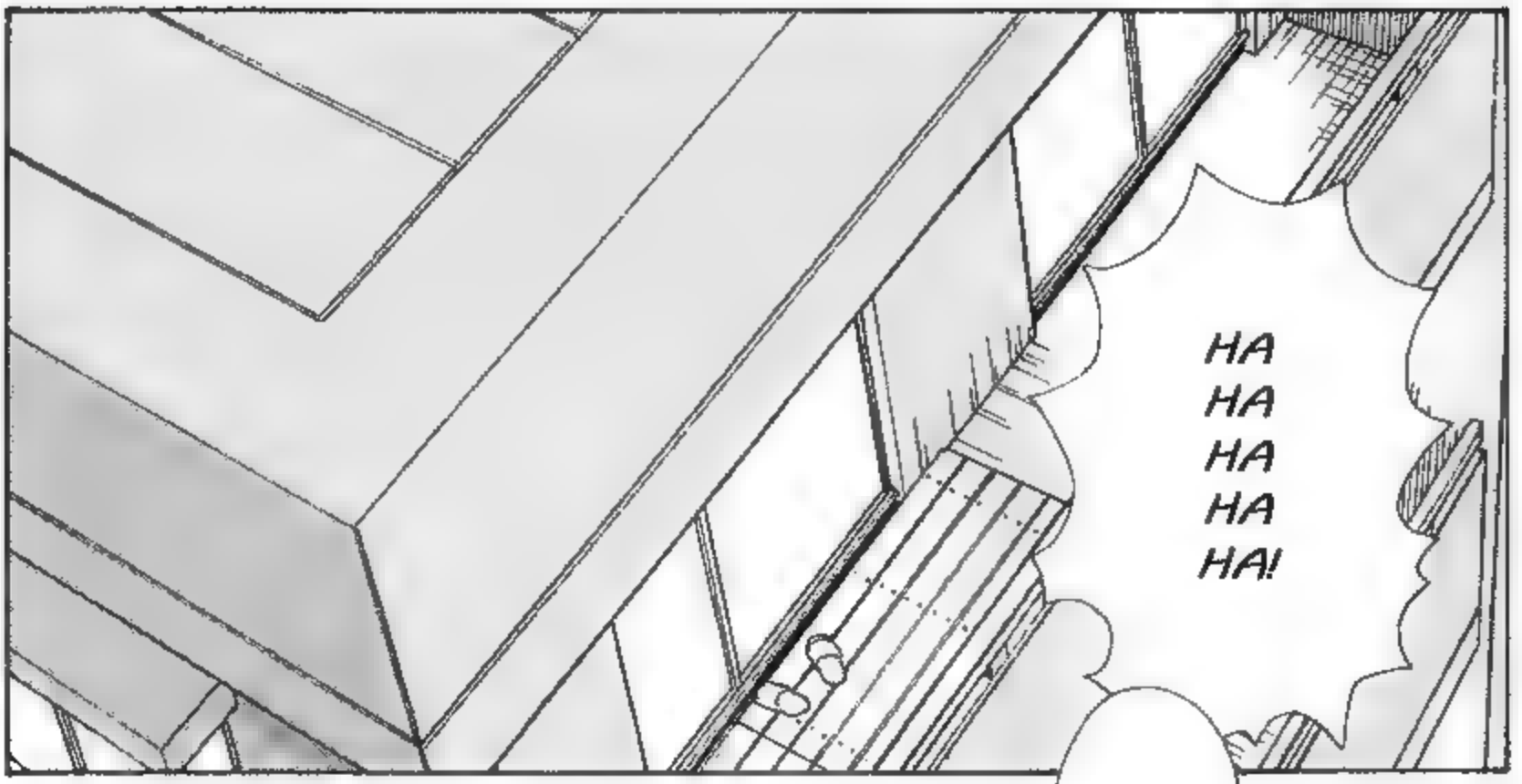
IF I MANAGE TO PASS, PLEASE LET MY BROTHER COME TOO!

NUMBER 49...

NITORI MAHO.

Oh...?

WHEN MY BROTHER DRESSES UP IN GIRLS' CLOTHES, HE'S RIDICULOUSLY CUTE. MUCH CUTER THAN MOST GIRLS!


HA
HA
HA
HA
HA!

Oh, THAT AUDITION ...
MAHO'S...
WHAT? WHAT?

THAT'S SO STRANGE!
BUT I WAS EMBAR-RASSED ALL BY MYSELF.

Haaah... MY SIDE HURTS!
YOUR SISTER IS A LITTLE BENT, huh?

Wow.
SHE MADE YOU AUDITION TOO, SHUU?

I TOOK CARE OF THAT!

YOU'RE MEAN, MOM!

WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY JUST PICK SHUU-CHAN?

PLEASE!

BUT IF I FAIL, PLEASE DON'T PASS MY BROTHER INSTEAD. NOT THAT!

I'M TURNING OFF THE LIGHT.

OK.

THAT'S RIGHT!

NOT SOLD SEPARATELY.

SHUU, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

BUT THAT MIGHT'VE BEEN A LITTLE MUCH...
I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE SAID THAT I CAN'T IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT MAIKO-CHAN...

YOU WANNA WEAR GIRLS' CLOTHES, RIGHT?

IF WE PASS, IN YOUR CASE WILL IT BE AS A BOY OR AS A GIRL?
I WONDER WHICH, hm?

"WE'RE TWINS."

OR SO WE COULD SAY.

WHAT WILL I DO IF SHE'S MEAN?

I WANT TO MEET MAKO-CHAN!

ME NEITHER.

Aaaah, I CAN'T SLEEP!

YOU THINK I SHOULD WAIT UNTIL I PASS TO SAY THAT, RIGHT?

[Sign. Computer Lab]

click

click

KOBA-YASHI-SAN, COME HERE PLEASE.

Ummm... MY SISTER'S ...

WHAT CAME UP SO SUDDENLY?

I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY.

HOW YOU HANGIN'?

TAKATSUKI-SAN!

SORRY, I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

YEAH...

YOUR SISTER'S PRETTY INTER-ESTING.

I JUST FINISHED READING THE DIARY.

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO IF YOU PASS?

OK, SMILE!

WHAT WILL YOU DO...?

THERE'S NO WAY...

NITORI-
KUN...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

YOU WERE A MODEL FOR A SECOND THERE, huh?

[Plate: Natori]

YES.

YES.

YES.

2

YES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING!

THANK YOU!

WELL...

WELL... WHAT SHOULD I DO?

YES...

YOU PASSED ...

WHAT'D THEY SAY?!

CLACK

AS A SET...

AND YOU.

YOU...

I'M SOOO HAPPY!

I'VE GOTTA CALL DAD.

YAY!

YAY!

WE'RE SISTERS STARTING TODAY!

SHUU! WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?!

WELL, WHATEVER!

YOU'RE PRETTY GIRLY JUST LIKE YOU ARE, SO NO PROBLEM!

Oh, WHERE DID SHUU END UP? BOY'S POSITION? GIRL'S POSITION?

OH MY, THEY DIDN'T REALLY SAY.

ARE YOU STILL ON THAT?

Geh heh heh! YOU WATCH, SEYA!

COOOOL! COOOL!

I'M A MODEL!

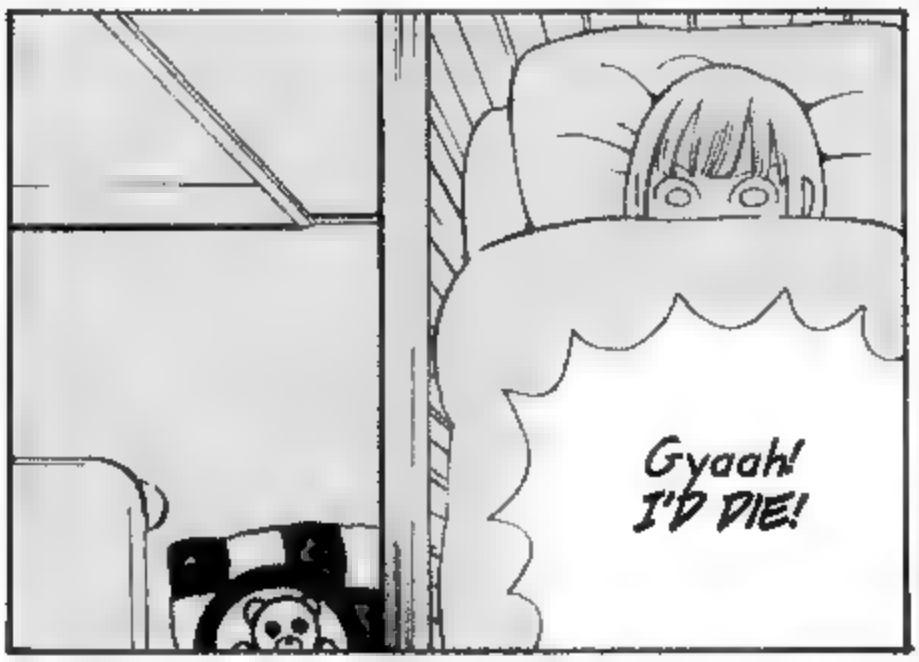
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

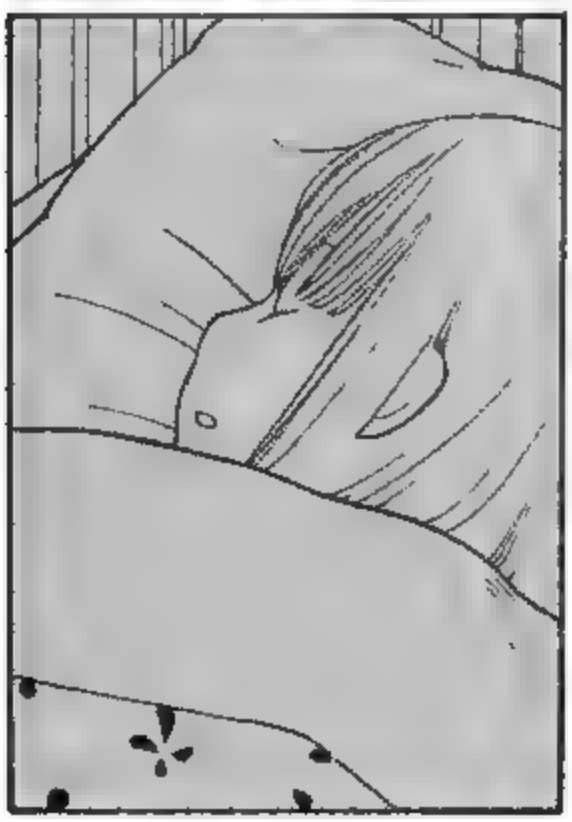
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

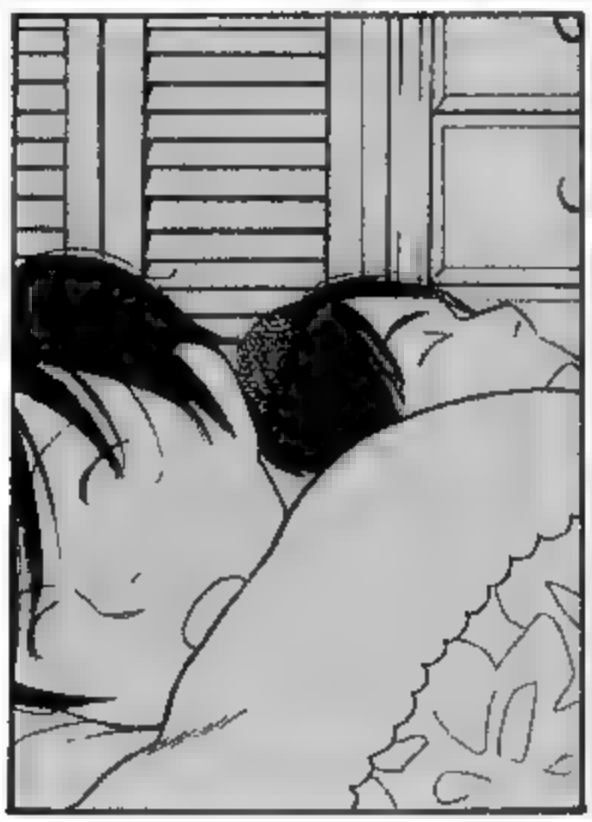
WHAT IF I'M ON TV WITH MAIKO-CHAN?

COULD THE DAY WHERE MY PHOTO'S IN A BOOK WITH MAIKO-CHAN BE APPROACHING?


Gyaah! I'D DIE!

Hey! MAHO!





SHUU,
GET
READY.

OF COURSE
IT'S OK. YOU
WEIRDO.

IS THAT OK?
ME?

I'M GOING TO
TAKE A PHOTO
OF YOU WITH
MAIKO-CHAN.

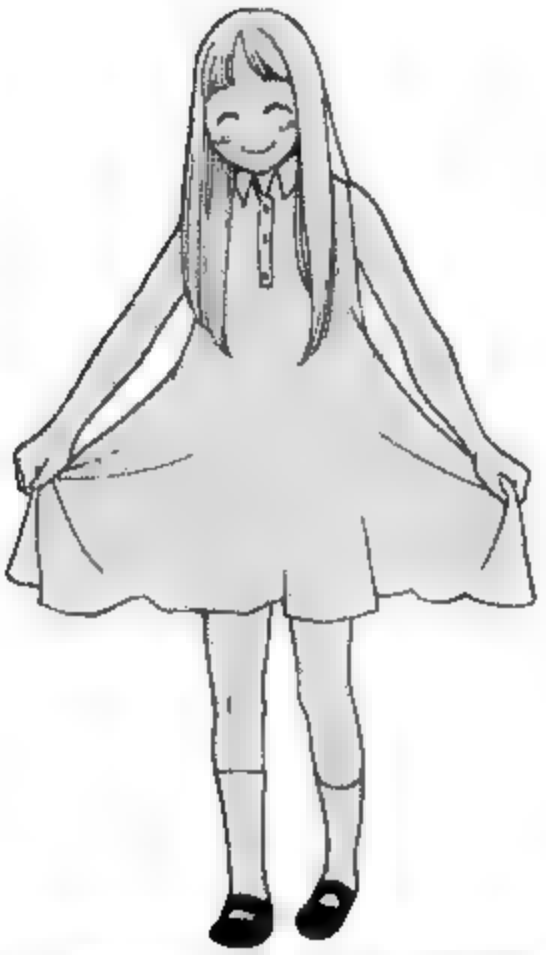
ITS TRUE!

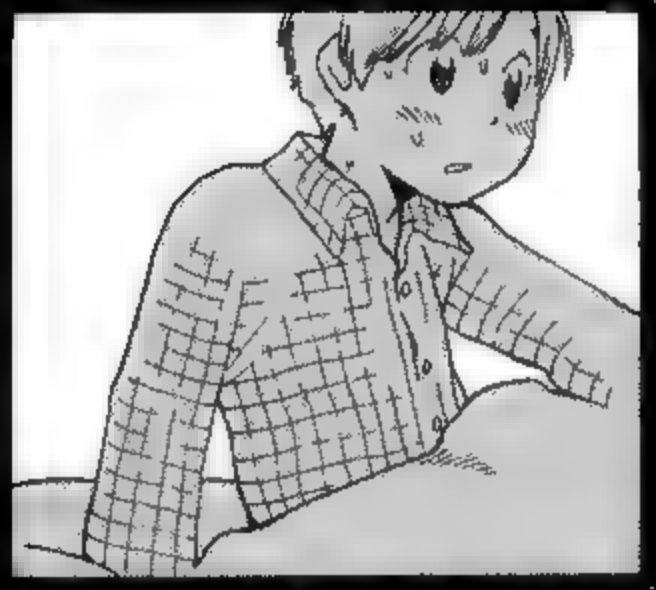
THAT'S RIGHT.

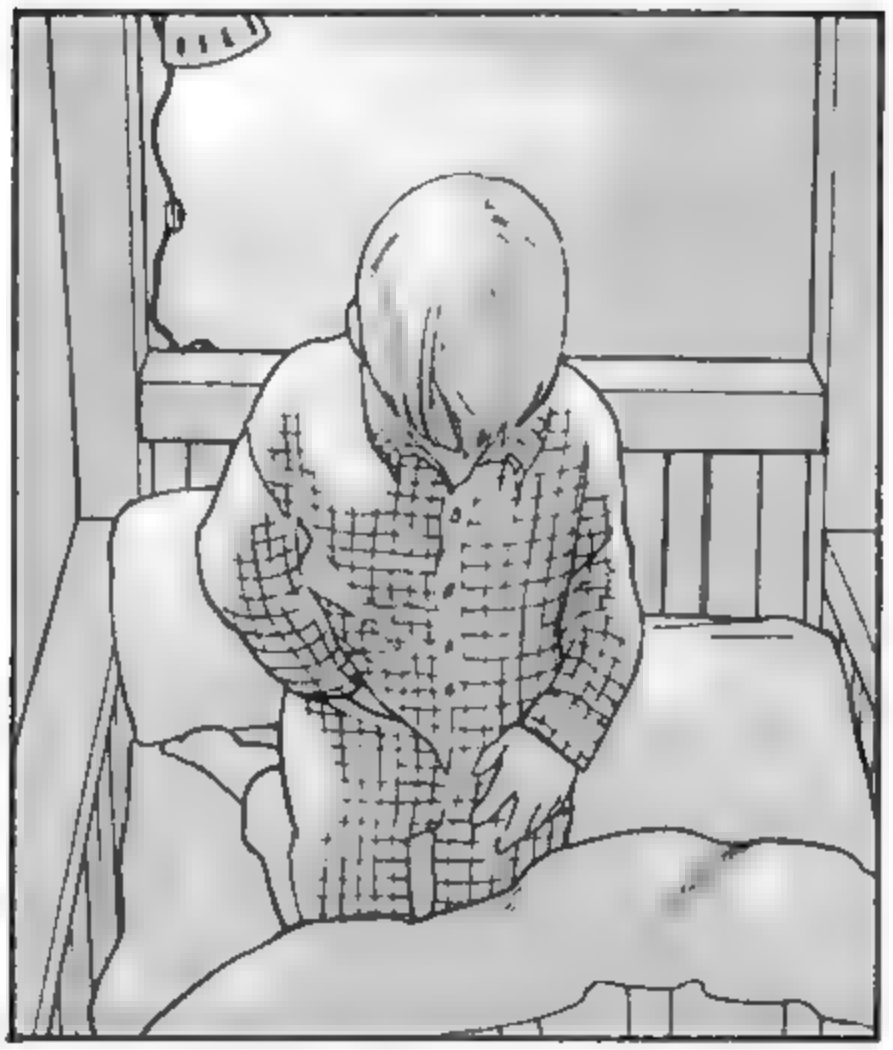
I SEE.

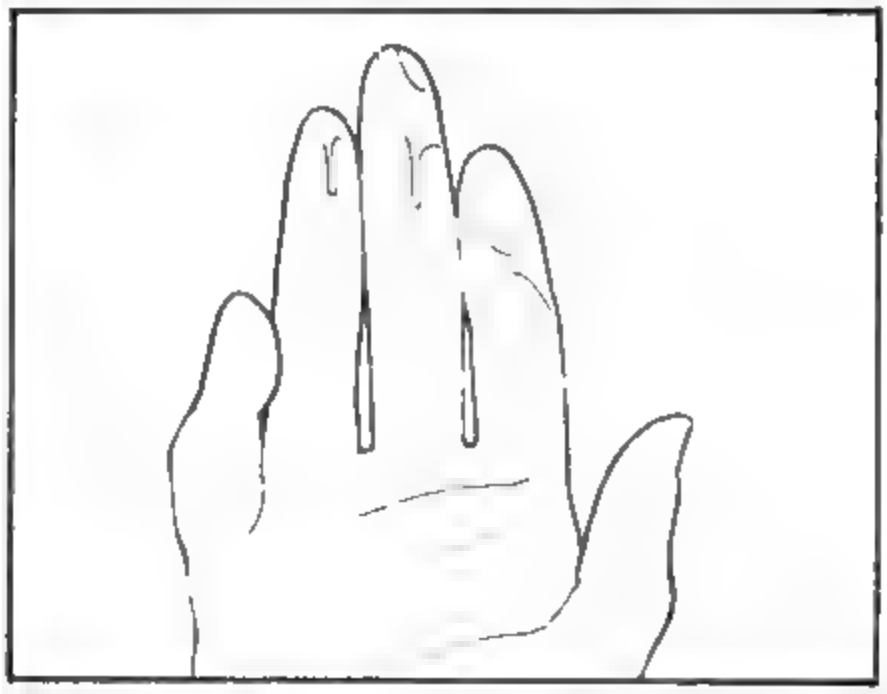
YOU'RE WEIRD!

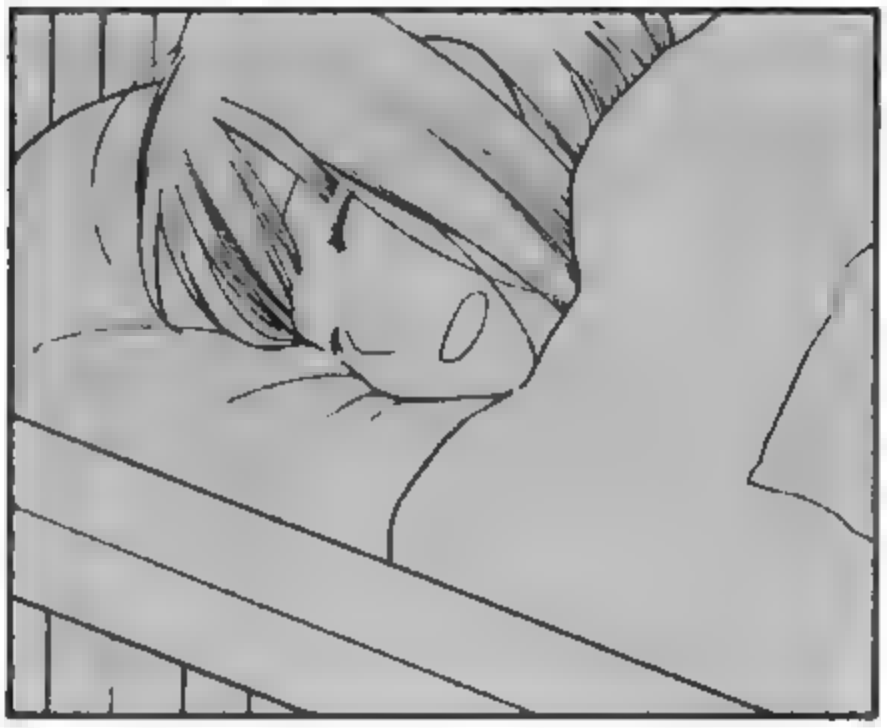
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE A GIRL!











YEAH!

ERK

DID YOU CHANGE YOUR UNDER-WEAR?

GET UP ALREADY, MAHO!

Uuunn ...

SHUU-CHAN.

SHUU-CHAN!

A COLD?

HE'S OUT OF IT TODAY.

TOAST.

Oh...

Grrr! WHY DO YOU HAVE TO ASK THAT IN FRONT OF DAD?!

WHAT ABOUT YOU? STILL?

HIS PERIOD.

WHY ARE YOU LAUGHING, YOU PERVERT DAD?!

YOU STARTED IT.

I'M LEAVING NOW.

TAKE CARE.

I HATE YOU!

Ah, YOU LEFT THIS MUCH...

I'VE GOT TO GO, TOO.

Oh?

I'M GOING TOO.

FORGET ANYTHING ?

ALL RIGHT THEN.
YUP.
MORNING.
MORNING.
NO RUNNING IN THE HALLWAY

[Sign: Nurse's Office]

THE NURSE IS...

...A NURSE AFTER ALL.

保健室

SLIDE

SHE WON'T LAUGH, RIGHT?

PLEASE EXCUSE ME.

YES?

YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?

MY FRIEND. IN THE NEXT CLASS.

Oh, YES.

NITORI-KUN.

CHIBA-SAN?

I'VE BEEN COMING HERE RECENTLY*.

Oh... REALLY?

Um...

SO WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

Oh...

Um, WELL...

I'VE GOT... A HEADACHE.

*Chiba-san is here because she can't deal with her class/teacher.

THIS ISN'T YOUR HOUSE, YOU KNOW...

IT'S OK, RIGHT, SENSEI?

PLEASE!

OH MY...

IF SO, YOU SHOULD LAY DOWN HERE!

CHIBA-SAN, YOU'RE HERE TO STUDY, RIGHT?

I ENDED UP IN BED...

I KNOW.

IT'S NOT A PLACE TO PLAY WITH YOUR FRIEND.

FIRST PERIOD'S GYM...

I HATE GYM...

THAT'D BE OK...

SENSEI STEPPED OUT.

YOU'RE AWAKE!

I FELL ASLEEP...

ABOUT TWO HOURS.

TAKATSUKI-SAN AND SASA-CHAN CAME EARLIER.

CHIBA-SAN, DO YOU EAT HERE, TOO?

NO.

THEY SAID THEY'D COME AGAIN AT LUNCH.

UGH...

THEY'RE FUSSING TOO MUCH...

I GO HOME FOR LUNCH.

HEY NOW! HEY NOW!

SORRY.

WRONG SIDE OF THE CURTAIN!

I'M SORRY TO TROUBLE YOU. Erm... THAT'S...

Ah...

Ah...

IS SHE BEING BULLIED, I WONDER...?

HOW DO YOU FEEL?

CAN I GO HOME?

I ENDED UP COMING HOME...

CLICK

GET SOME SLEEP.

OK.

IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL, TELL ME!

THAT CAUGHT ME BY SUR-PRISE.

OK ...

I'M HOME!

WELCOME BACK.

Hey!

SHUU! GET UP! GET UP! GET UP!

SHUU-CHAN'S SLEEPING IN YOUR ROOM.

WHERE'S SHUU?

GOT IT!

MOM, YOU ONLY ACT NICE TO SHUU!

SHUU'S NOT FEELING WELL!

Whoa... I SLEPT AGAIN.

MAHO, THAT'S SO COOL!

WHA...

WHAT'RE YOU CRYING ABOUT ...?

YOU'RE REALLY GONNA BE A MODEL?

NOT YET. I'M JUST IN A TALENT AGENCY SO FAR.

I REALLY DID BECOME A MODEL, YOU KNOW.

YOU'RE JUST IN A TALENT AGENCY.

SEYA.

Hm?

YOU WANNA MEET THAT GIRL?

YOU NEVER TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT HER.

S'OK...

...

DO YOU WANT ME TO SET YOU UP?

WHA... JUST WHAT DID YOU...?

HURRY!

Huh?

MOM, GO BUY SOME SWEETS OR SOMETHING!

MAI

AH MAN! THIS WILL JUST HAVE TO DO!

LET'S SEE... LET'S SEE...

WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO FOR A NAME?

SHUT UP!

ONEE-CHAN...

OHMYGOD! HE'S HERE!

DING DONG

MY FRIEND, TAKATSUKI YOSHINO-SAN!
LET'S SEE... LET'S SEE...

H-HELLO.

Oh...

Hi.

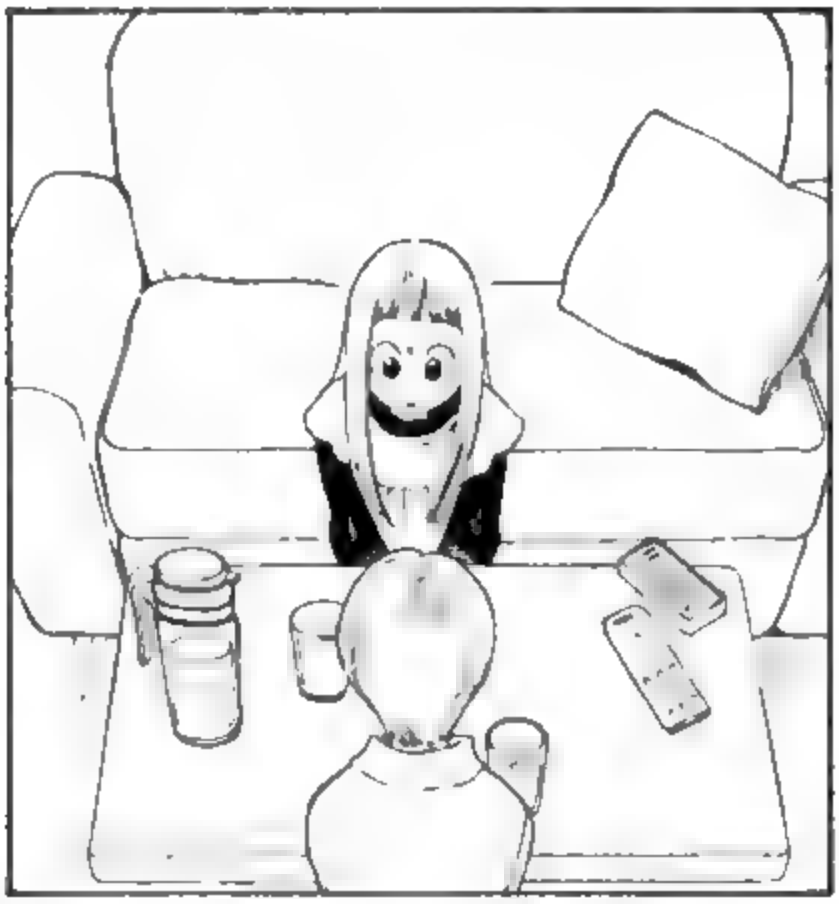
*A type of soda.

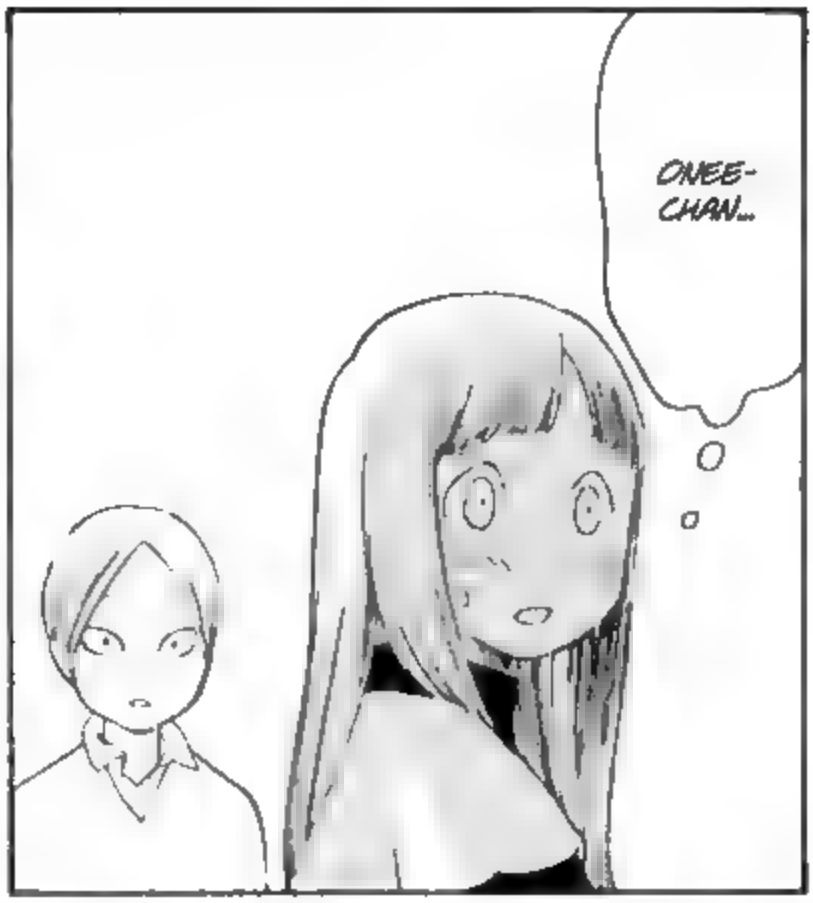
IS CALPIS' OK?

tap tap tap tap ——···

Oops

I GUESS I'M IN THE WAY, huh?

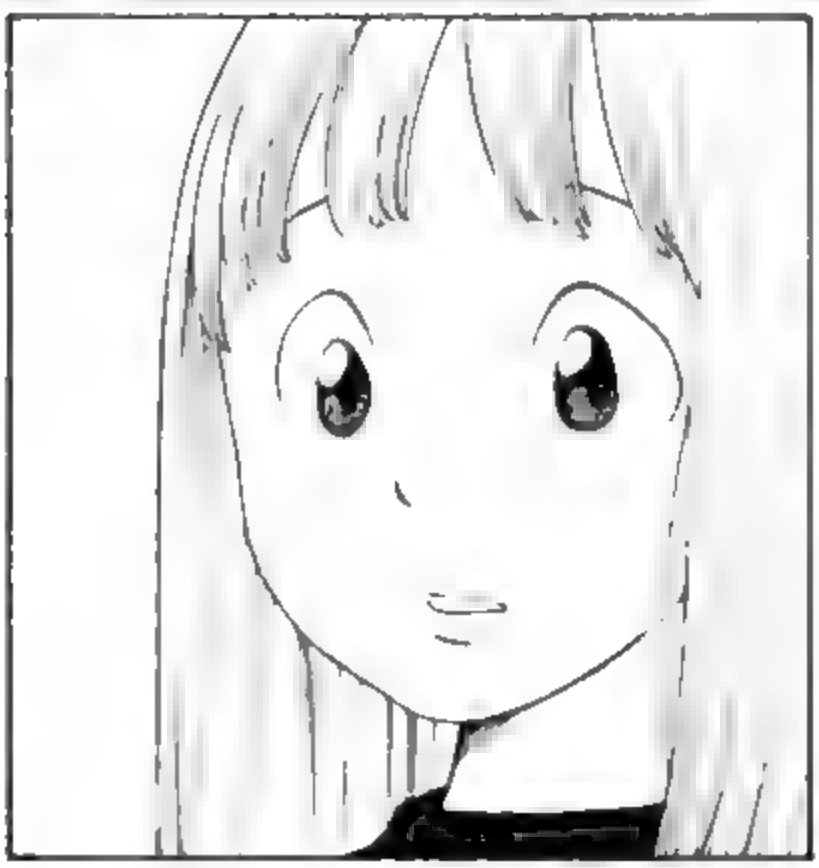


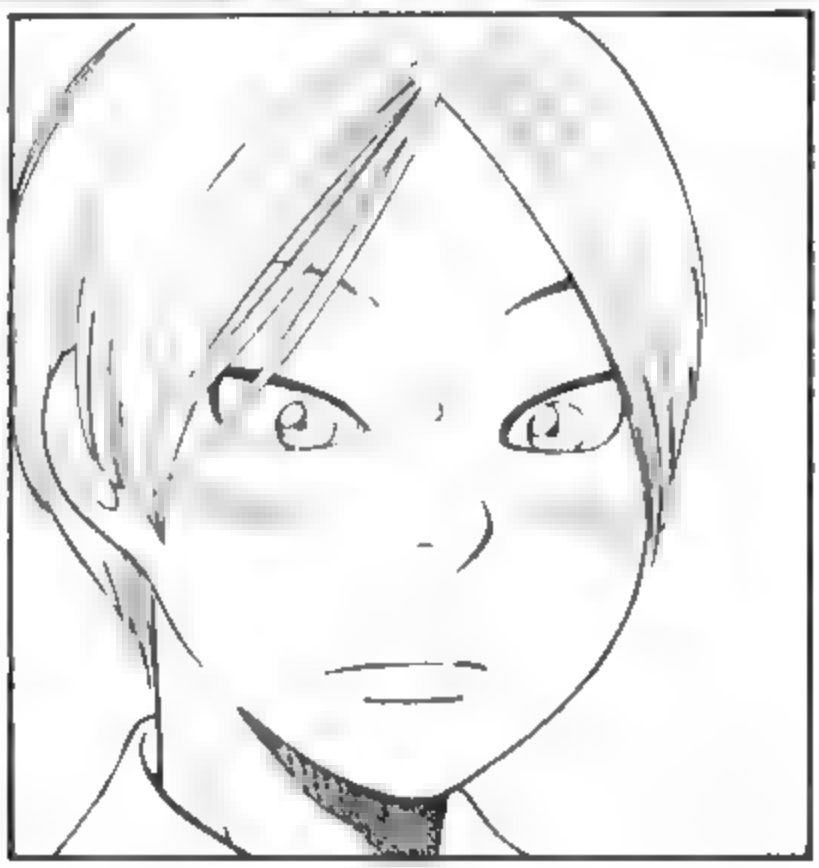

ONEE-
CHAN...

AAAAH

GULP
GULP
GULP

THANKS
FOR THE
CALPIS.





BUT I'M NOT SLEEPY TODAY, SO IT WORKS OUT.

I'VE GOT TOO MUCH TO WRITE DOWN. DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START...

MAi

MY SISTER WHO ALWAYS TELLS ME TO TURN OFF THE LIGHT...

THERE'S A REASON SHE S NOT SAYING ANYTHING NOW...

I HOPE YOU WON'T LAUGH OR BE SURPRISED... PLEASE...

WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY...

WHAT HAPPENED WITH CHIBA-SAN...

MORNING.

M...

MORN.NG.

MORNING.

MORNING.

OH YEAH. HERE.

Y-YEAH.

YOUR COLD GONE?

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! TODAY'S ENTRY IS UNBELIEV-ABLE!

Wow!

WHAAAT'S THIS?

WHAAAT'S THIS?

HIS NAME...

...IS OKA TAKANORI-KUN.

AND ...

AND ...

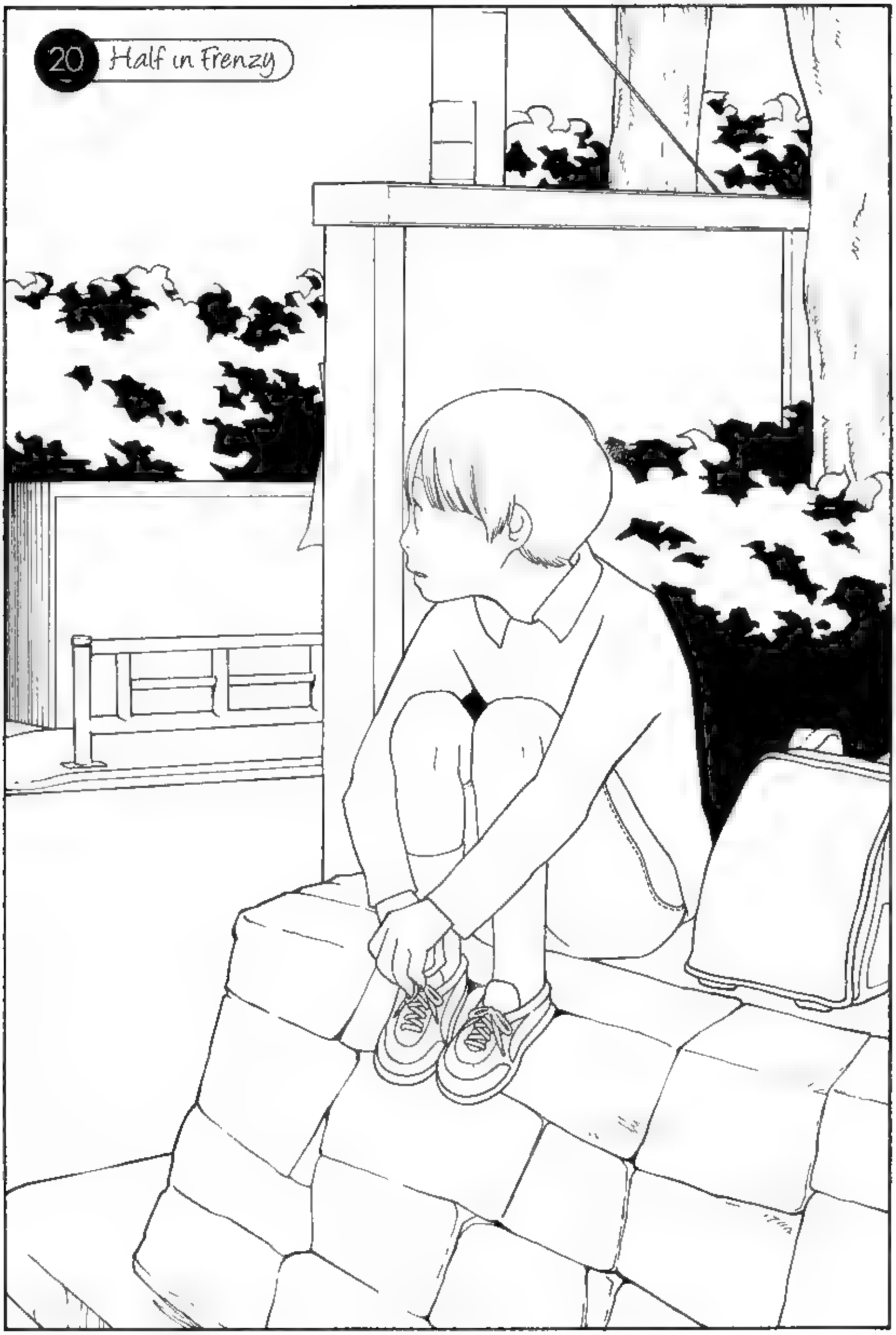
AND THEY ...

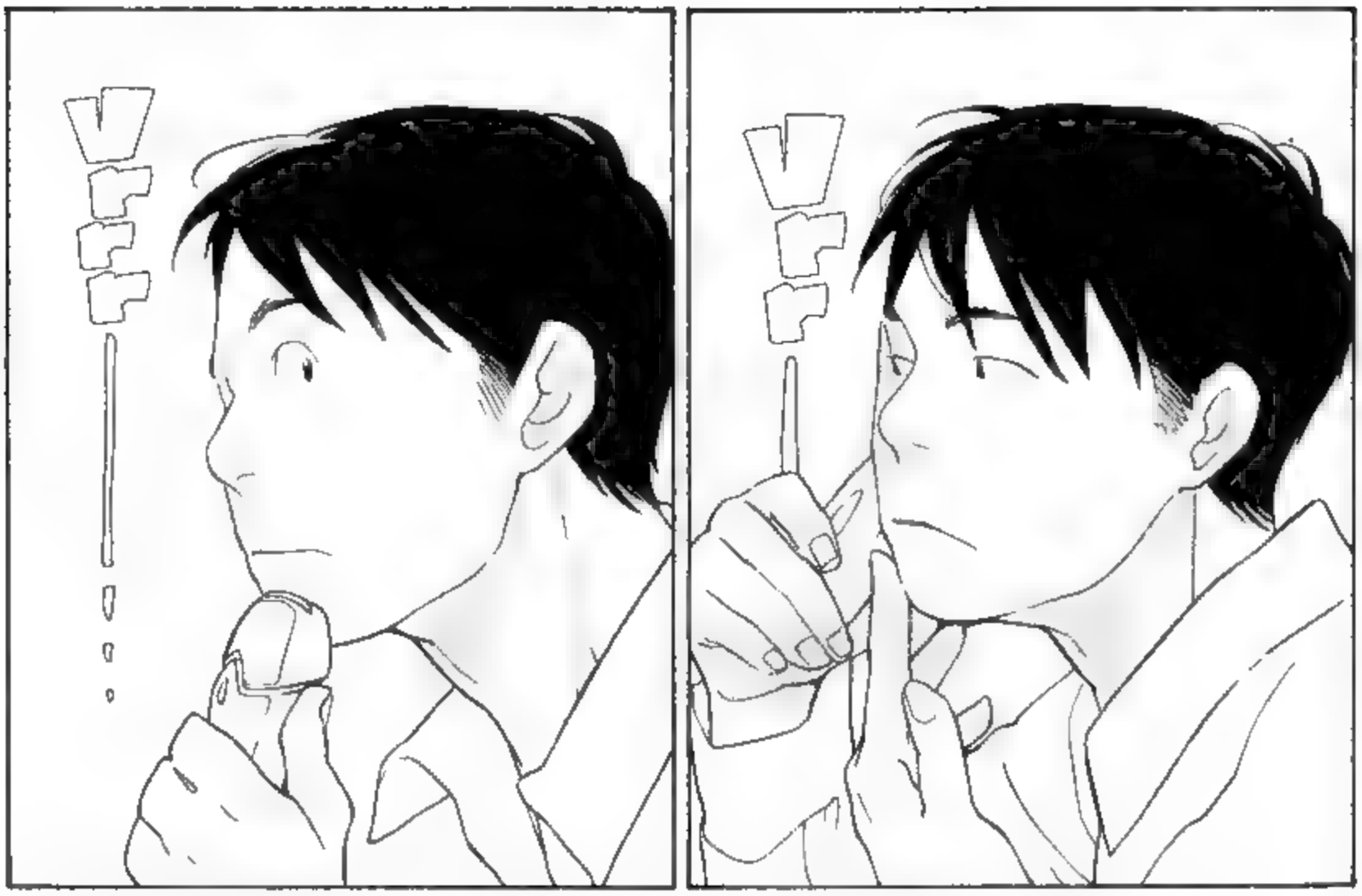
THIS IS...

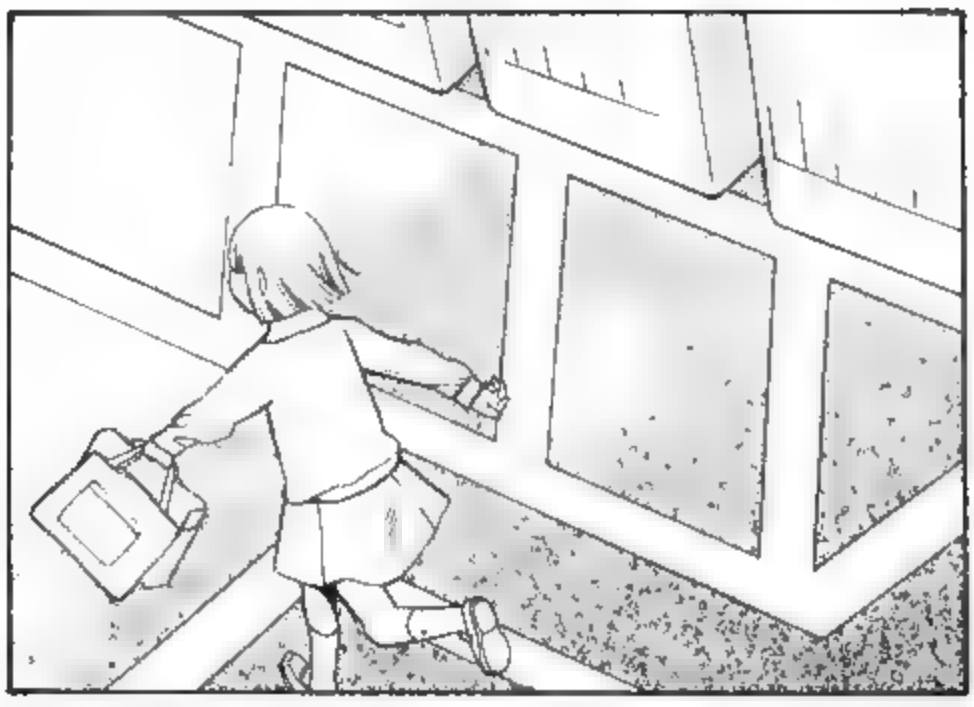
...DOI SHINPEI-KUN.

5TH GRADE
5TH GRADE
PASSED
IT ON...!

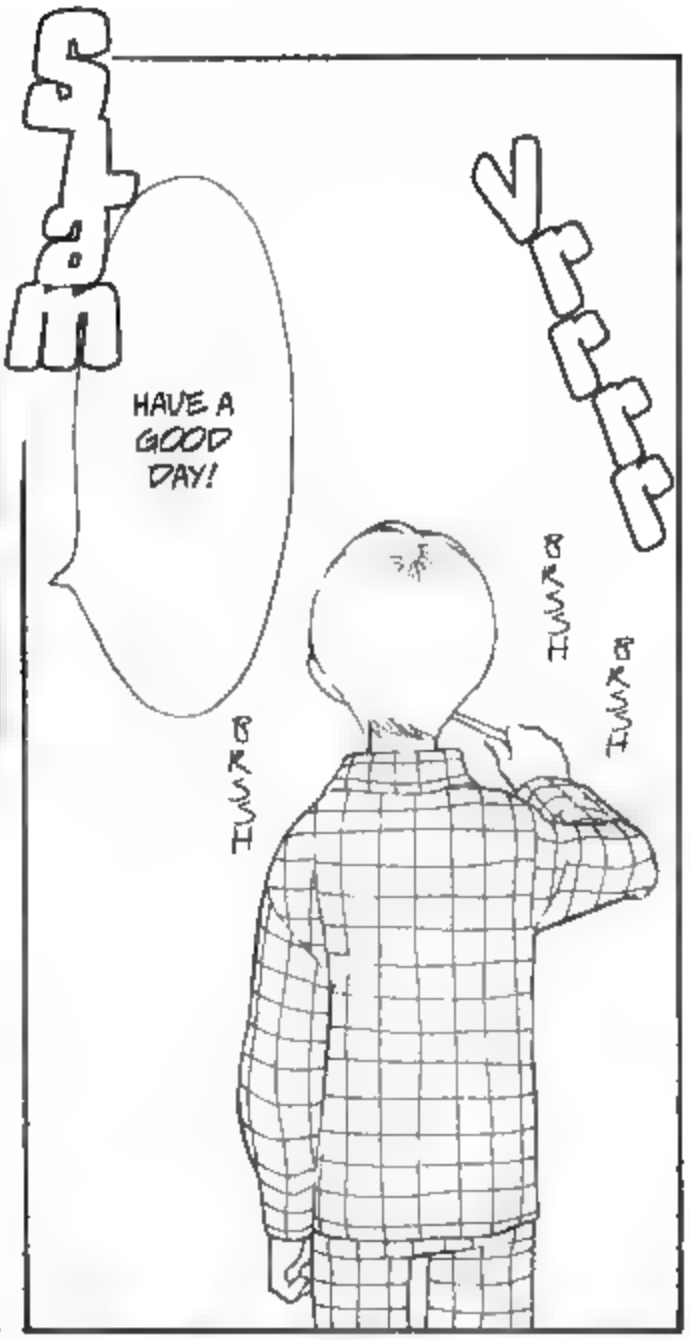
20 Half in Frenzy

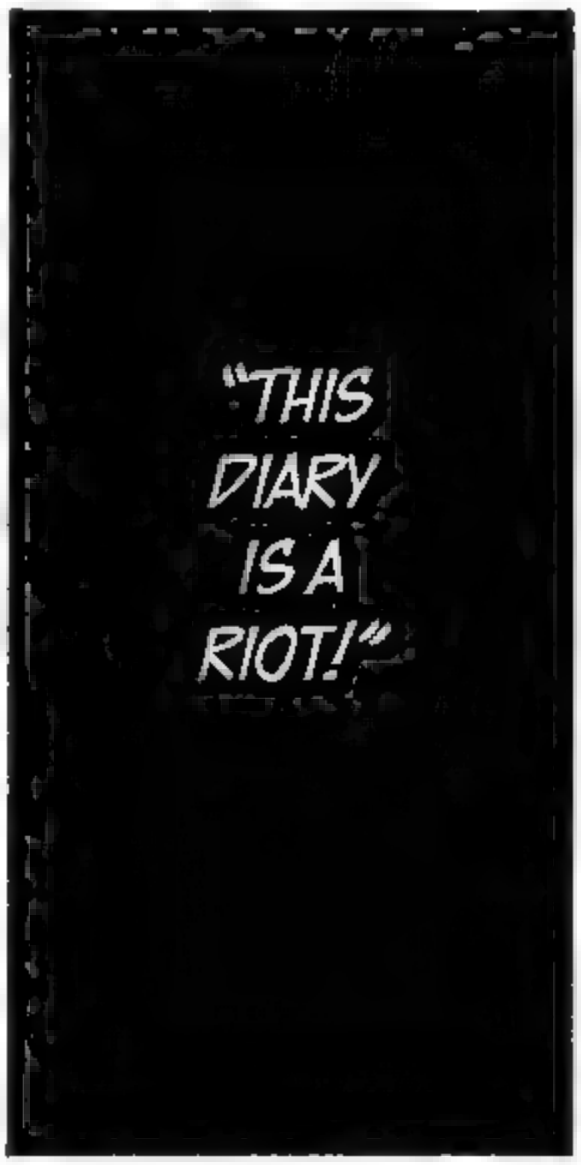



MAHO, GOING ALREADY?
YEAH.
WANNA TRY?
N-NO, THANKS.



HMMM
HMMM
HMMM


SIGH
HAVE A GOOD DAY!
HMMM
HMMM
HMMM


"THIS DIARY IS A RIOT!"

CLASS IS STARTING!
HEEY NOW! TAKE YOUR SEATS!
I TOTALLY KNEW HE WAS GAY!
YOU TWO ARE FROM CLASS TWO, RIGHT? GET BACK TO YOUR CLASSROOM!

R.I.P

AH...

NOTE BOOK

AH...!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

WHA...

NOTHING!

EVERYONE, BE QUIET!

OKAAAY.

CAN IT BE TRUE?

THAT'S AMAZING!

EVERY-THING IN THAT DIARY?

I WONDER...

絵画コンクール

AAAH...

TAKATSUKI-SAN...

YEAH, I'M GOIN' HOME...

IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU AND YOUR FREAKY HOBBY!

THIS IS ALL YOUR...

WHAT?

GOOD LUCK WITH BECOMIN' A GIRL!

WHATEVER. IT TAKES ALL SORTS.

UGH...

OH MY...

THAT'S AWFUL.

BUT THE TWO OF YOU ARE REALLY CLOSE, HUH?

THE NURSE'S OFFICE CLASS-ROOM HAS GAINED ANOTHER PUPIL.

THE REASON I STOPPED GOING TO MY CLASS-ROOM IS...

UM, NITORI-KUN...

YOU CAME HOME EARLY YESTER-DAY...
AND YOU WERE ALWAYS SICK WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, SO...

YO-CHAN...
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T NEED TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL ?

OH NO... YOU'RE NOT BEING BULLIED OR ANYTHING, RIGHT?
WHY WAS I BORN AS A GIRL?!

I'M SAYING THIS BECAUSE I WORRY THAT SOMETHING MIGHT HAPPEN TO YOU.

WHAT'S WRONG ABOUT THAT?

GIRLS ARE CUTE AND...

I HATE IT!

I SAID

WHY WAS I BORN AS A GIRL?!

WHAT ...?

IT'S YOUR FAULT!

IT'S DAD'S FAULT TOO!

WHY ARE YOU COMPLAINING ABOUT IT NOW?

YOU HATE IT?

"NO WAY"?

NO WAY!

NO WAY! NO WAY! NO WAY!

NO WAY!

LISTEN, YOU!

IF YOU HAVE THAT MUCH SPUNK, GO TO SCHOOL!

IT...

...PISSES ME OFF!

"JOIN THE TAKARA-ZUKA"...

Hey, SOMETHING HAPPENED, RIGHT?

"WEAR CUTE CLOTHES" ...

GOOD MORN-IIING!

Hey! NITORI-KUN!

WHAP

MORNING!

MORNING!

SCHOOL LIFE HAS BECOME WARPED.

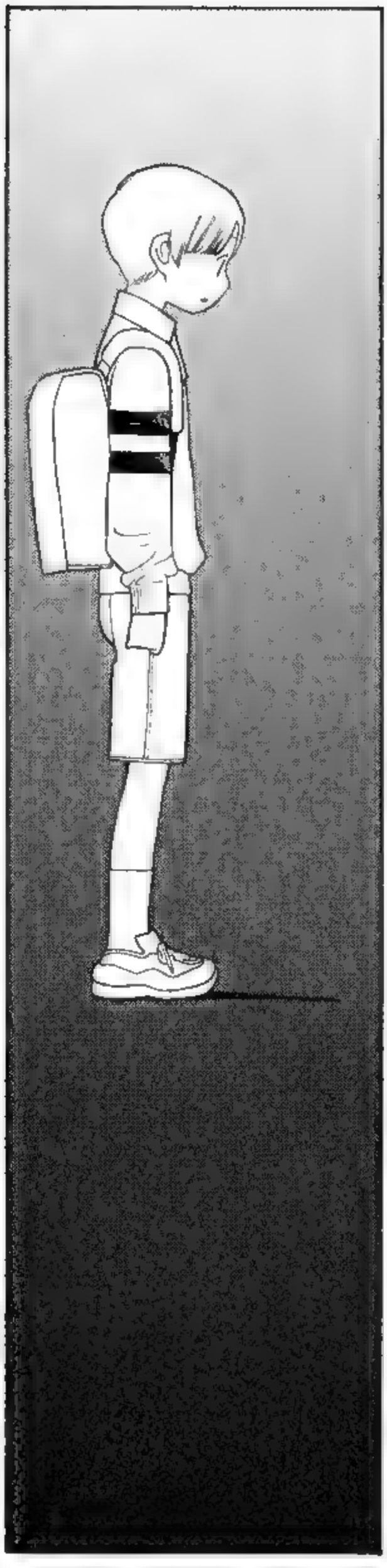
[Sign: Nurse's Office]

保健室

CHIBA-SAN?

Oh...

ISN'T IT SPLENDID? SHE SAID SHE'D GO TO HER CLASS-ROOM.



[Sign: Grade 6 Class 1]

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "BOTH SIDES OF THIS ARGUMENT ARE AT FAULT"?!

6年1

TELL HER SHE CAN COME BACK IF IT BECOMES TOO HARD.

NOW, NOW, NOW.

CHIBA-SAN...!

NITORI-KUN AND TAKATSUKI-SAN ARE BLAME-LESS!

CUT YOUR STOMACH IN APOLOGY!

HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE FINALLY RETURNING TO CLASS, BUT...

THIS WASN'T SOME SORT OF ARGUMENT!

IF THIS ISN'T ONE-SIDED HARASSMENT, WHAT DO YOU CALL IT?!

PERFECT.

I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU AND THE WHOLE CLASS.

THE REASON I STARTED GOING TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE AFTER I WAS SEATED NEXT TO DOI-KUN...

THE REASON I STOPPED COMING TO CLASS...

I DIDN'T SEE ANY REASON TO SAY ANYTHING, SO...

DON'T!

CHIBA-SAN!

WHAT?

GO AHEAD!

DON'T SAY THAT...

YOU SHOULDN'T ...

I HATE YOU!

EVERYTHING YOU SAY. EVERYTHING YOU DO.

YOU'RE CREEPIN' ME OUT! GO AHEAD AND SAY IT!

YOUR STINK...

SLAP

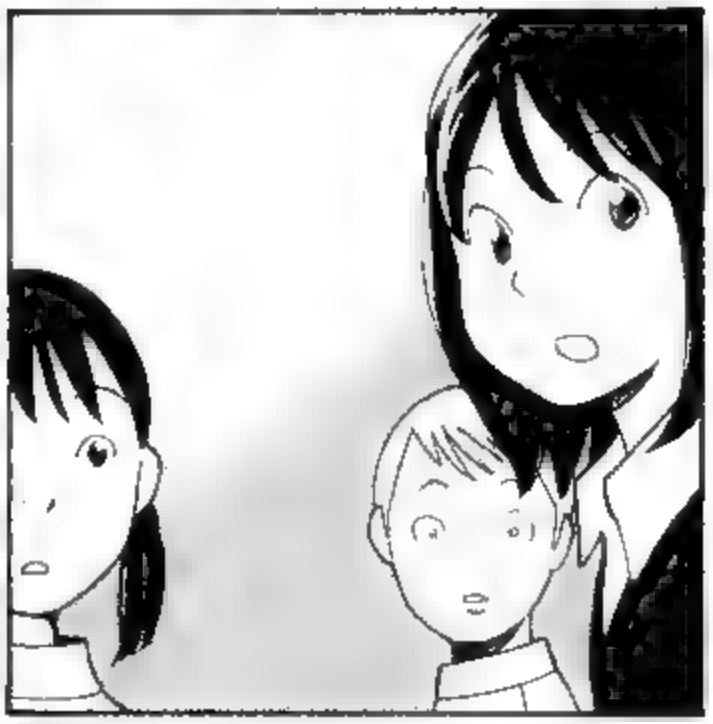
THIS...

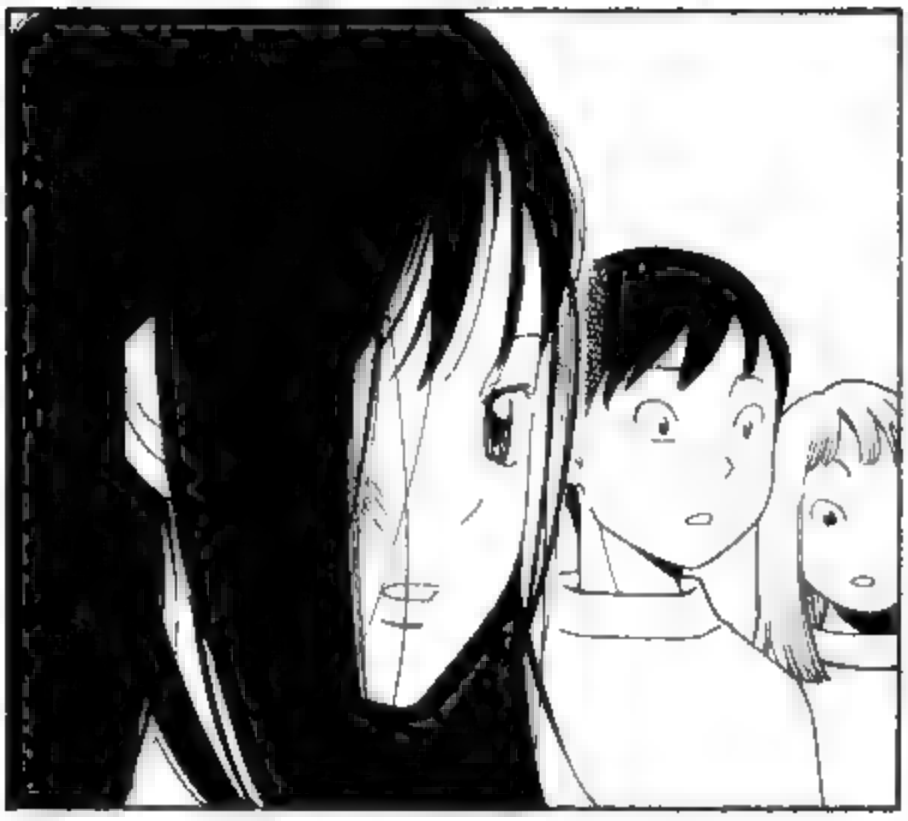
I CAN'T STAND THIS...!

NO!!

IN FRONT OF EVERYONE!

SO I ENDED UP CRYING LIKE THERE WAS NO TOMORROW.





I ENDED UP CRYING, TAKATSUKI-SAN.

AFTER PROMISING MYSELF THAT I WOULDN'T, I ENDED UP CRYING.

YO-CHAN, YOU HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING ALL MORNING.

DO YOU WANT SOME RICE BALLS?

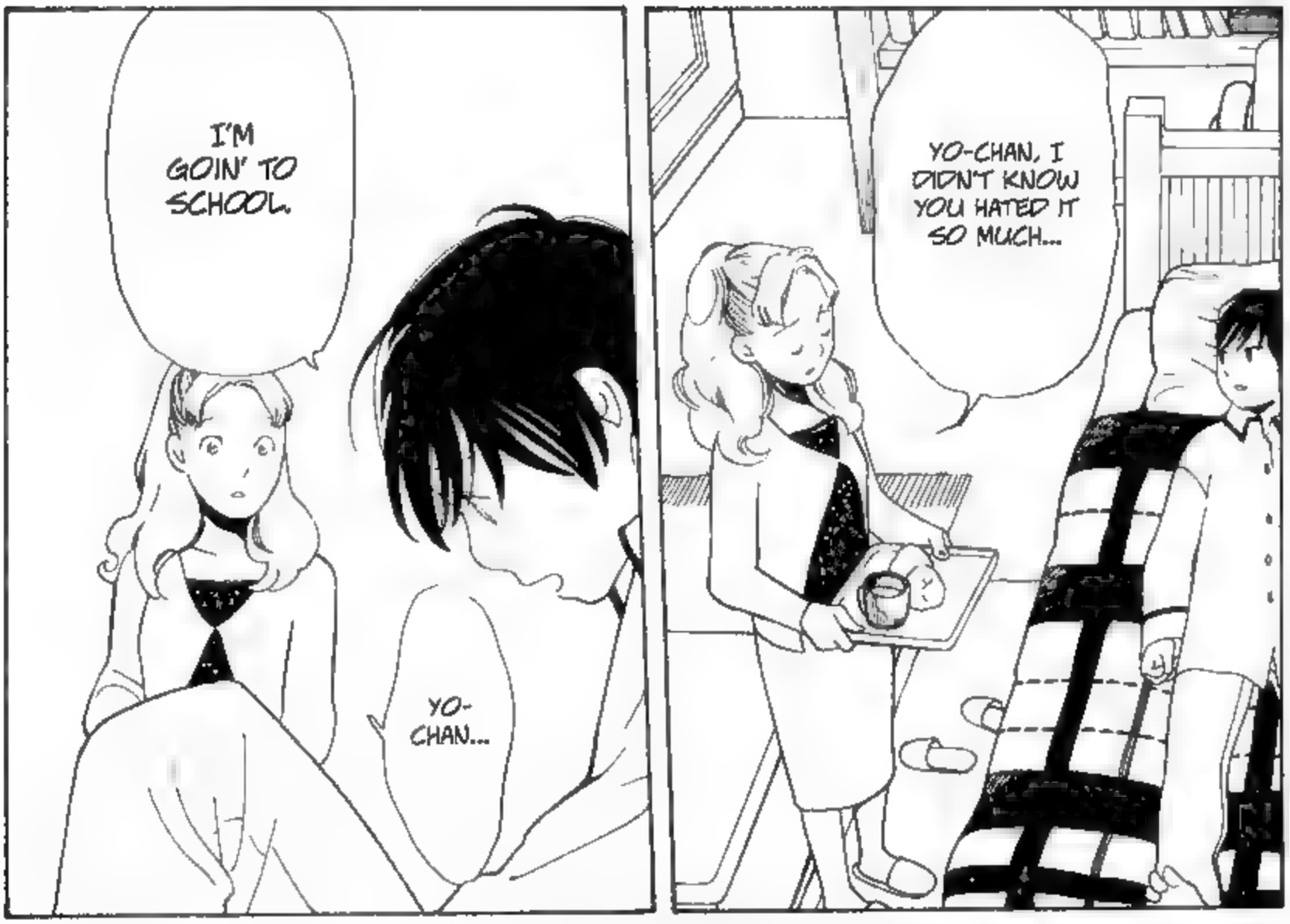
I HAVE TO PULL IT TOGETHER.

THIS ISN'T ANY GOOD.

I CAN'T DO THIS FOREVER.

YO-CHAN ...

I'M AT FAULT TOO.


I'M GOIN' TO SCHOOL.
YO-CHAN...
YO-CHAN, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU HATED IT SO MUCH...

OK.
TAKE CARE!
I'M OFF.
WHA...?
YO-CHAN ...?
Um, THAT'S...
BUT...

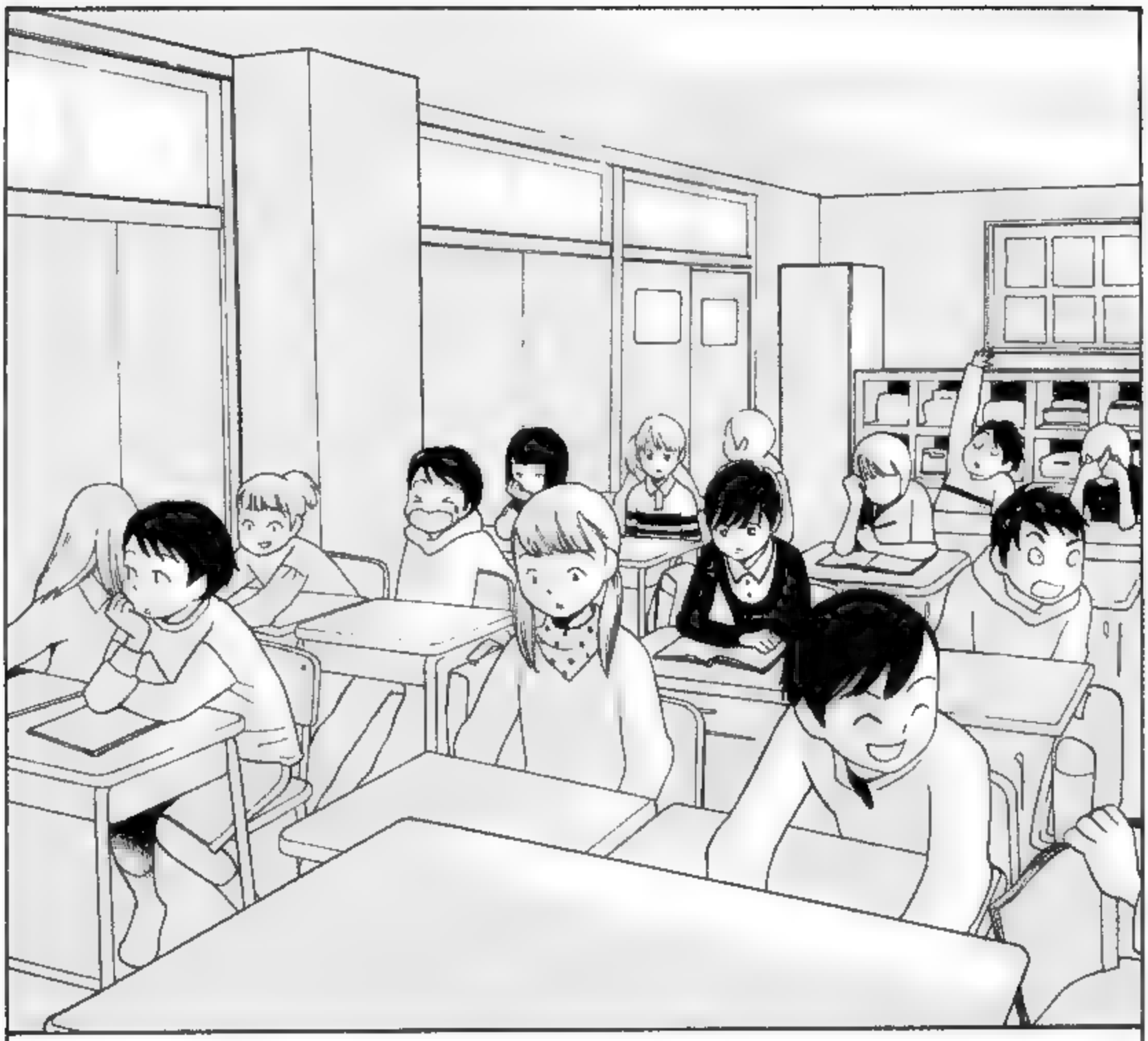
TAKA-TSUKI'S ...

...WEARIN' GIRLS' CLOTHES!

YOU WANT ME TO DROP MY PANTIES AND SHOW YOU?

I AM A GIRL.

YOU'RE DUMB.



TAKATSUKI-SAN...

...WON'T MEET MY EYES ANYMORE.

FLIP

TAKATSUKI'S GOT CUTE UNDIES!

EW OOH

HEY!

WHILE

6-2

Takatsuki Yoshino

ow!

clonk

IT GOT DIRTY.

YEAH.

MORONS!

YOU SUCK!

YOU GIRLBOY!

Aaahh...

TAKATSUKI-SAN...

SAORIN, I THOUGHT YOU WENT HOME ALREADY.

NO, I DON'T... BUT I REALLY INTEND TO.

YOU'RE BOTH VICTIMS.

IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T UNDER-STAND YOUR FEELINGS, BUT...

IT'S LIKE YOU'RE IGNORING HIM...

NITORI-KUN REALLY NEEDS SUPPORT.

BUT...

EVEN SO, IT'S A BIT...

I THINK IF I'M AROUND HIM, THERE'LL ACTUALLY BE MORE GOSSIP.

THUD!

WHY DOES SHE HAVE TO SAY IT LIKE I AM THE BAD GUY?

WHAT ABOUT ME!?

NITORI-KUN NEEDS SUPPORT?

NITORI-KUN'S...

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU KNOW?

FLOMP

IT'S GOT NOTHIN' TO DO WITH YOU!

Hmmm

THAT'S NO GOOD! IF YOU DON'T EAT, YOU WON'T GROW!

I DON'T *WANNA* GROW!

TONIGHT WE'RE HAVING CURRY...

DON'T WANT ANY.

HOMO

FOR GOD'S SAKE...

PHIL?

NO TACKS...

ANY TACKS IN YOUR SHOES?

THANKS... BYE.

UMPH

DON'T THEY KNOW ANY OTHER WORDS?

SNUFF...

ERR

DO YOU REALLY HAVE THAT MANY CUTE DRESSES?

SNUFF...

CLICK

SSSH.

PLEASE COME IN.

THANKS FOR HAVING ME.

Wow ...

I WOULDN'T ...

YOU CAN LAUGH...

YOU WANT TO WEAR THEM?

I WANNA WEAR THEM! TOTALLY WANNA!

MY MOM LAUGHED AT ME.

YOU CAN HAVE THEM ALL.

I'M HOME!

CLICK

Slam

I'M NOT WEARING THEM ANYMORE...

SLAM

TMP TMP TMP

WHATEVER. GOTTA CHOOSE AN OUTFIT FOR SUNDAY!

WHAT'S WITH THE CLOTHES?

Ah...

WHAT?!

GO ON A DATE WITH SEYA!

I'M ARIGA...

EXCUSE ME. GOOD AFTERNOON.

WHO ARE YOU?

NO WAY! NOT THAT!

SHUU ...

...IS TALKING BACK...

...TO ME...!

NO WAY!

I DON'T CARE! IT'S DECIDED! DECIDED!

YOU DESPOT!

don't get what's going on, but...

WHEE-HAW

SEYA...

BUT... I ALREADY TOLD HIM OK... SO...

ONEE-CHAN...

WHAT AM I DOING...?

THAT'S WHY YOU DON'T DECIDE SUCH THINGS WITHOUT THE PERSON IN QUESTION BEING THERE.

BUT...

Oh...

IT STOPPED.

Whoops!

Oh!

YOUR NAME...

ARIGA MAKOTO.

CAN I CALL YOU NITORIN* ?

CAN I... STOP BY AGAIN?

SURE.

*Adding "-rin" to a name is cute, friendly and used by girls.

MAKO-CHAN...

CALL ME MAKO...?

COULD YOU...

TAKATSUKI-SAN...

GOOD NIGHT...

I MADE A NEW FRIEND.

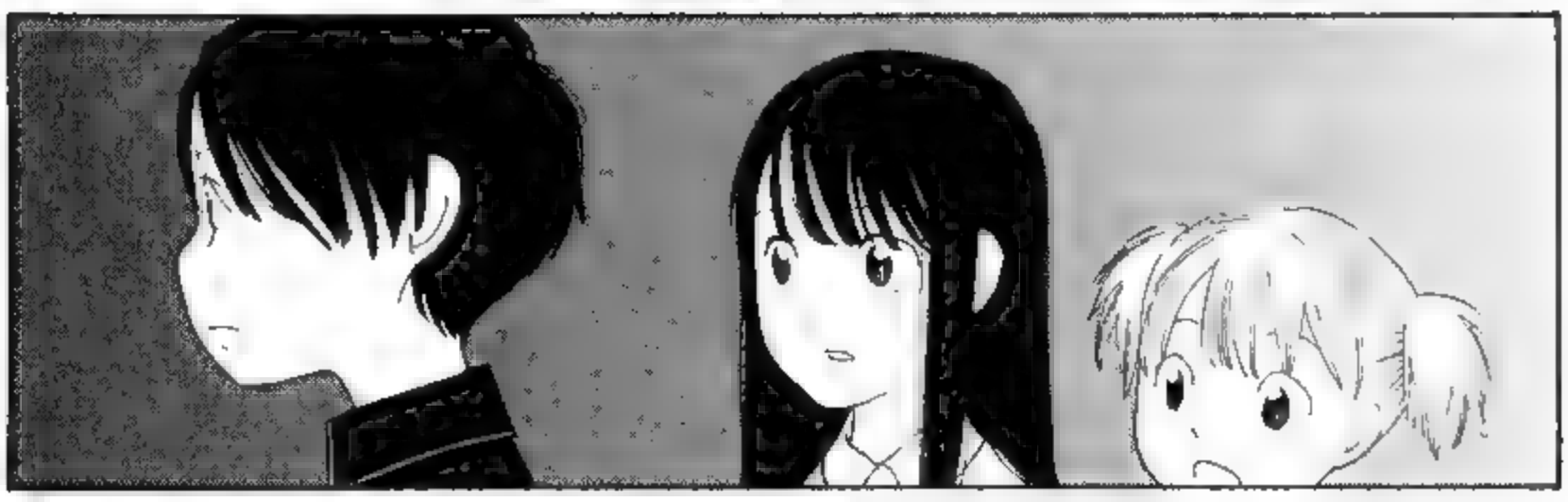
GOOD MORNING.

SAORIN, GOOD MORNING!

MORNING.

MORNING.

GOOD MORNING, TAKATSUKI-SAN...



NO WAY! IT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION!

NO ...
SO SHE'S MAD AT ME FOR YES-TERDAY...

I have no idea what to do!
BUT NOW EVERY-ONE'S SPLIT APART!
THEY'RE ALL MY FRIENDS!
SO...
SO...

I'LL HELP YOU.

THANKS.

NITORI-KUN.

Um, NITORI-KUN...

SO... SO...

YEAH, I KNOW.

TAKATSUKI-KUN DOESN'T HATE YOU OR ANYTHING.

I'M SORRY.

SORRY ...

sob

WAAAAH! I HATE THIS!

DO-

DON'T CRY, SASA-CHAN.

IGNORED HER...

I'M AWFUL...

I PASSED RIGHT BY...

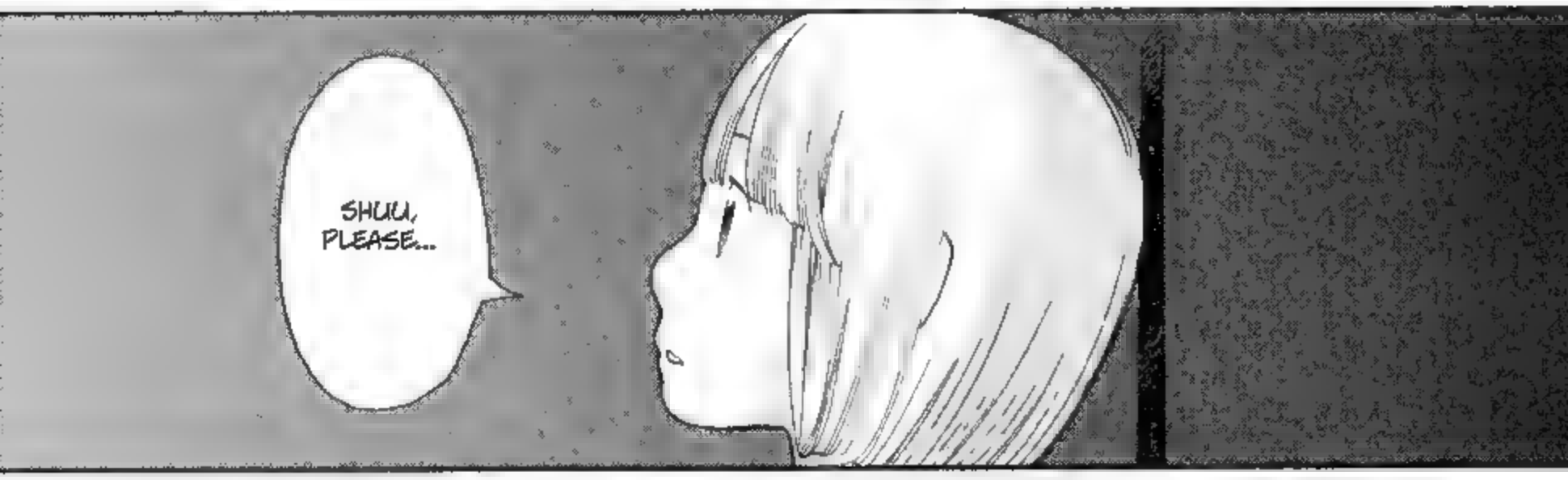
TUD

I'M BECOMING MORE AND MORE A DESPICABLE PERSON...!

NITORI-KUN...

YUKI-SAN ...!

WHAT ?!
I'M STAYING AT A FRIEND'S TONIGHT!
Hey! STOP MAKING SUCH A NOISE!
THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD


SHUU, PLEASE...

SO PLEASE GO ON A DATE WITH HIM...

JUST ONE TIME IS FINE.

Hmm?

"JUST ONCE"? ISN'T THAT GOING TO BE HARDER ON HIM?

Ugh...

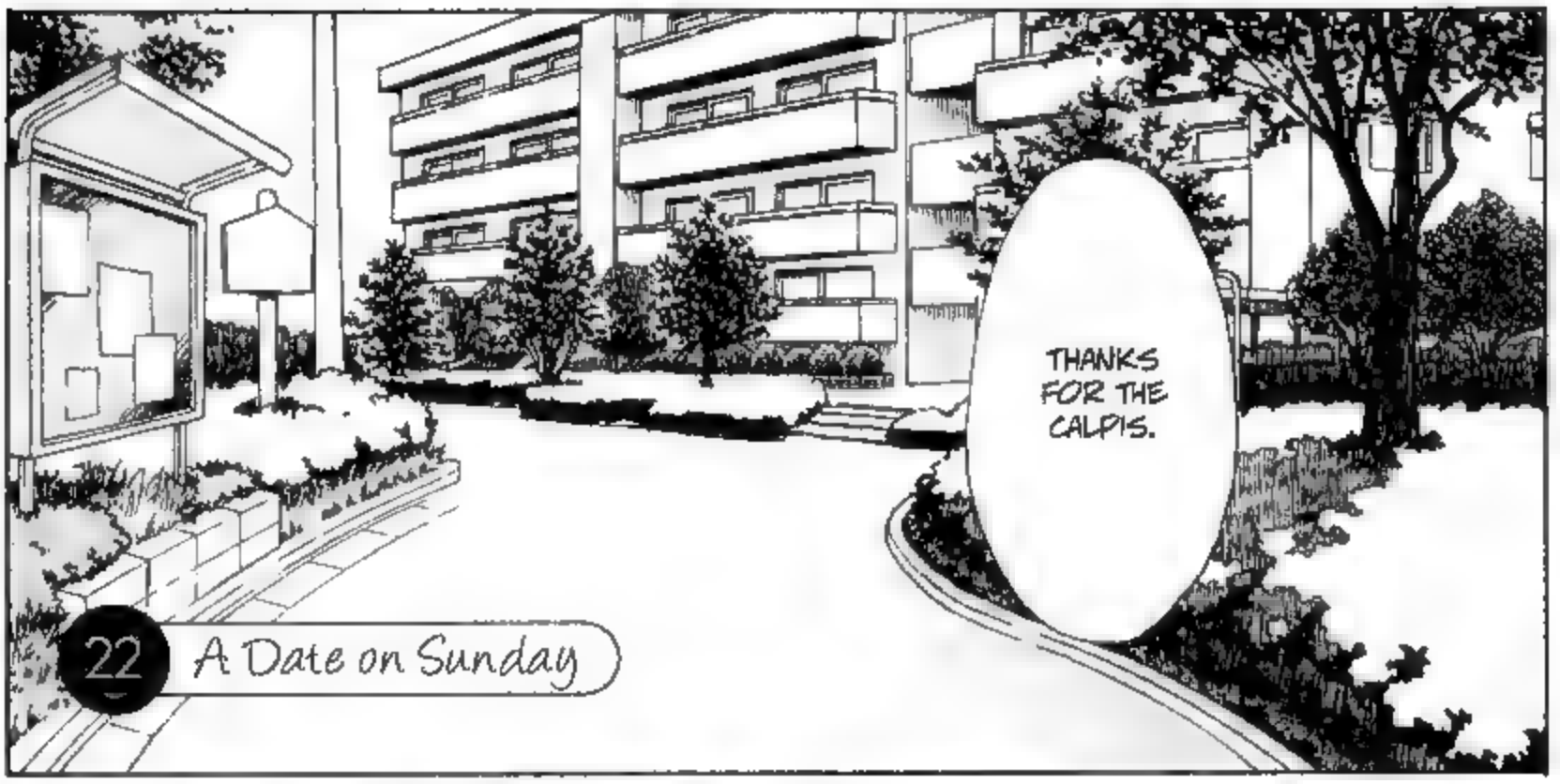
I'LL DO IT.

TOMORROW ...

OK...

WHAT?!

I'LL GO TOO.



22 A Date on Sunday

WE READ, TALK, BAKE...

WHAT DO THE TWO OF YOU DO TOGETHER?

YOU'RE CLOSE WITH NITORI?

Y-YEAH.

I DON'T!

Y-YEAH, SHE DOES.

YEAH.

WHAT?!

NITORI BAKES THINGS?!

YOSHINO-SAN...

DO YOU HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?

A B-BOY-FRIEND?

GO HOME TO BED, LITTLE BOY!

WHO SAID IT WAS OK TO ASK ABOUT THAT?!

Huh? I COULDN'T ...?

OK! THAT'S IT!

W-WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH HER?

SLAM

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF SEYA?

I HAD NO IDEA HOW TO RESPOND TO THAT QUESTION.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT SEYA.

I THINK HE LOOKS NICE, BUT...

LOOK...

Whoa, SORRY!

I'M NOT YOUR FRIGGIN' SERVANT!

SET ME UP AGAIN!

LAST TIME WAS PATHETIC!

I'LL FIGURE OUT SOME-THING.

FINE.

[Plate Nitori]

I THINK I'M PRETTY CUTE.

ALL RIGHT!

SO I'LL TAKE HIM ON!

Huh?!

HAH

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

He he he

SPIN

ARE YOU READY?

YEAH.

Um...

I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT. COOL, huh?

DEVOT-ED?

EVEN THOUGH I'M THE DEVOTED TYPE!

TRY ANY-THING ...?

SO HE DOESN'T TRY ANYTHING FUNNY.

AS CHAP-ERONE.

YOU'RE REALLY GOING?

OK!

LET'S GO!

Um, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DRINK?

I-IT'S OK
WELL, SORRY FOR TAGGING ALONG, hmm?

YOU WERE JUST THINKING THAT I'M UGLY, RIGHT?

...AT NITORI'S HOUSE.

I DRANK THAT THE FIRST TIME...

Um, LET'S SEE...

CALPIS.

Oh, I'VE GOT MONEY...

IT'S OK, I'M THE ONE WHO ASKED.

CAN I?

Ha ha ha

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

Huh?

RUTS

Blush

HE'S... SMOOTH.

OK, THE SAME.

He he he

ALRIGHT, FIND SOME-PLACE FOR US TO SIT.

HE'S PRETTY COOL...

YEAH.

Huh?

Oh...

ANYWAY!

I DIDN'T MEAN...

WHY DO YOU JUST ACCEPT IT LIKE IT'S YOUR DUE?!

You're shameless!

WHAT?!

I THINK MY SISTER LIKES HIM...

I'M GOING HOME.

WHAT?

NITORIN...

YOU'RE AWFUL, GIRL!

BLITHELY DATING THE BOY YOUR SISTER LIKES...

P-PLEASE DON'T GO!

Huh?!

SO YOU USE TEARS TO MAKE THE GUY OBEY.

I SEE, I SEE.

I'LL STAY.

THANKS ...

Erm...

OK! I'M HERE TO LEARN!

DO YOU HAVE ANYPLACE YOU WANT TO GO?

HOW 'BOUT THE AQUARIUM?

GRR... WISHY WASHY!

Um... Um...

WELL, HOW ABOUT THAT...?

HOW ROMANTIC!

Uh... OK.

IT'S CLOSE BY.

SO IT MIGHT BE...

SORRY, I HAVE TO RUN TO THE RESTROOM.

WHOA! IT'S LIKE AN ILLUSION.

NITORIN, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM?

HE'S SO COOL. REALLY...

LOOKS LIKE HE'S MY TYPE.

HE DOESN'T KNOW YOU, BUT HE LIKES YOU.

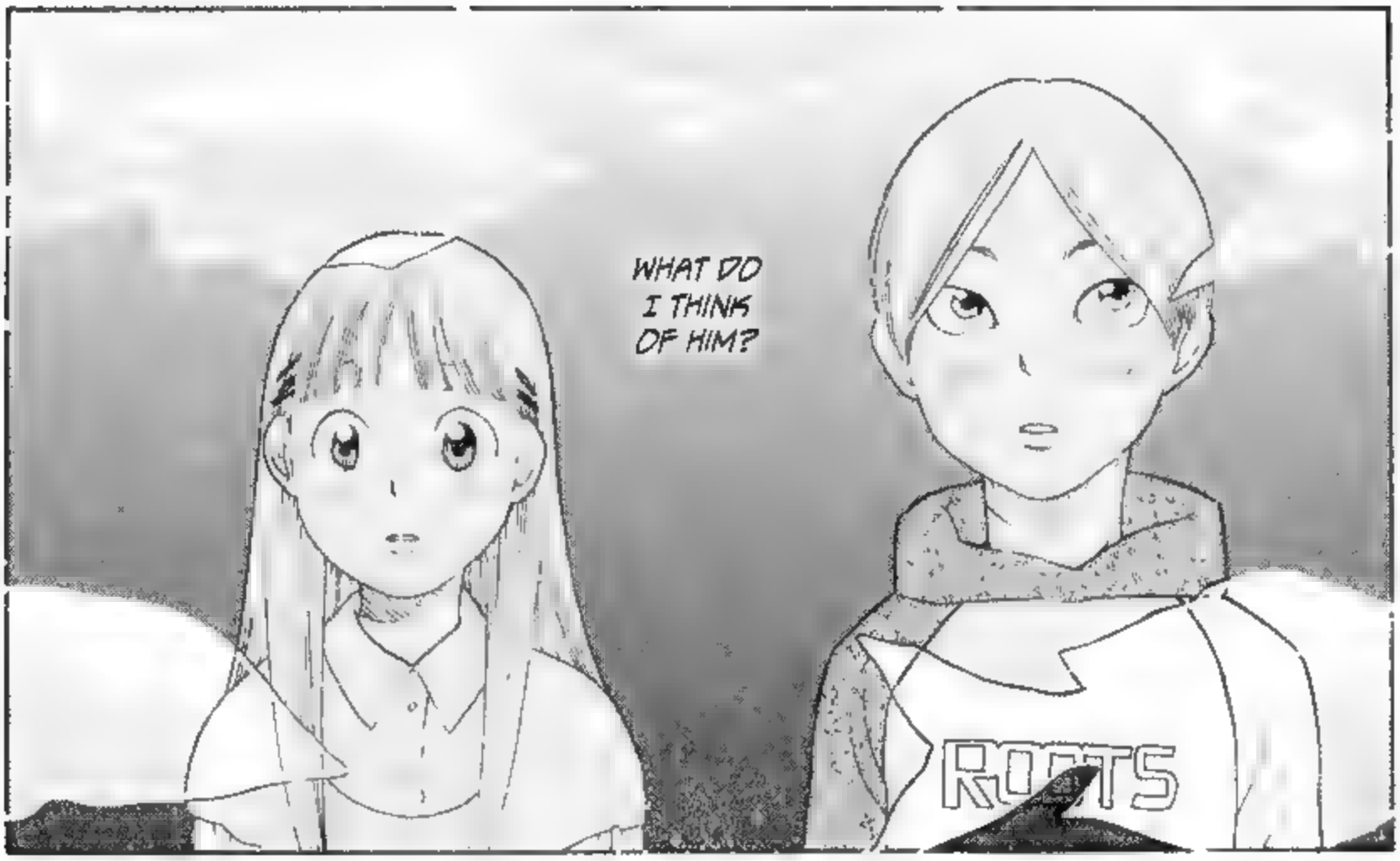
HE'S THE SAME, YOU KNOW.

WHAT DO I THINK? I DUNNO, I DON'T KNOW HIM.

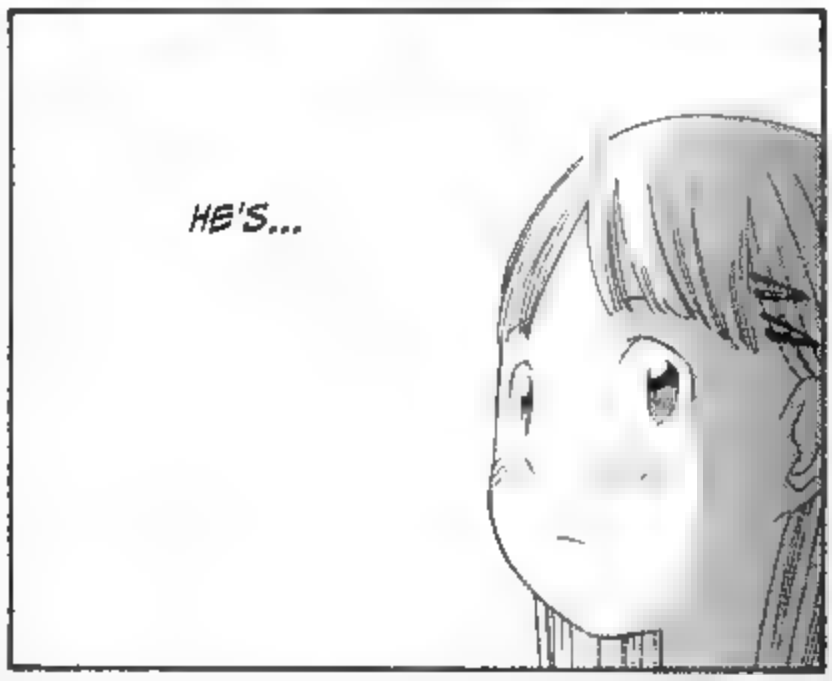
MY MOM DOES NOTHING BUT FALL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, SEE?

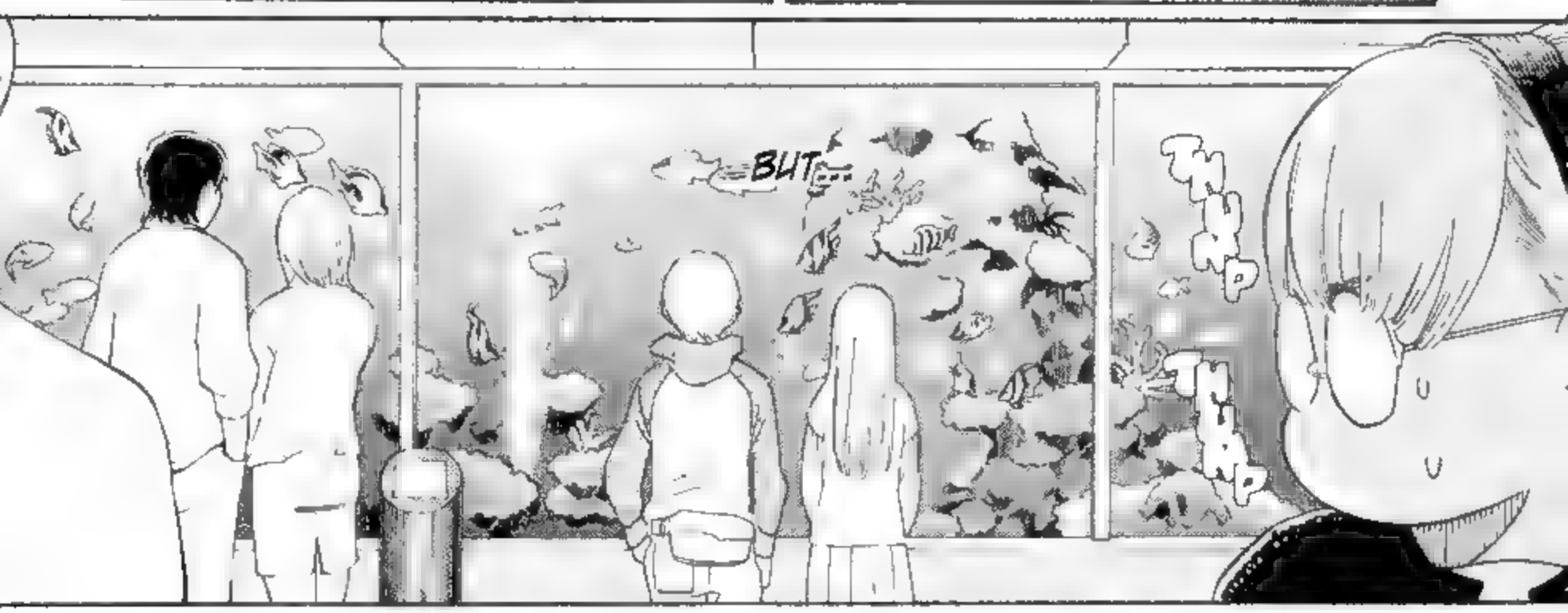
MAKO-CHAN, YOU'RE AMAZING...

MUST BE LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, *hm?*

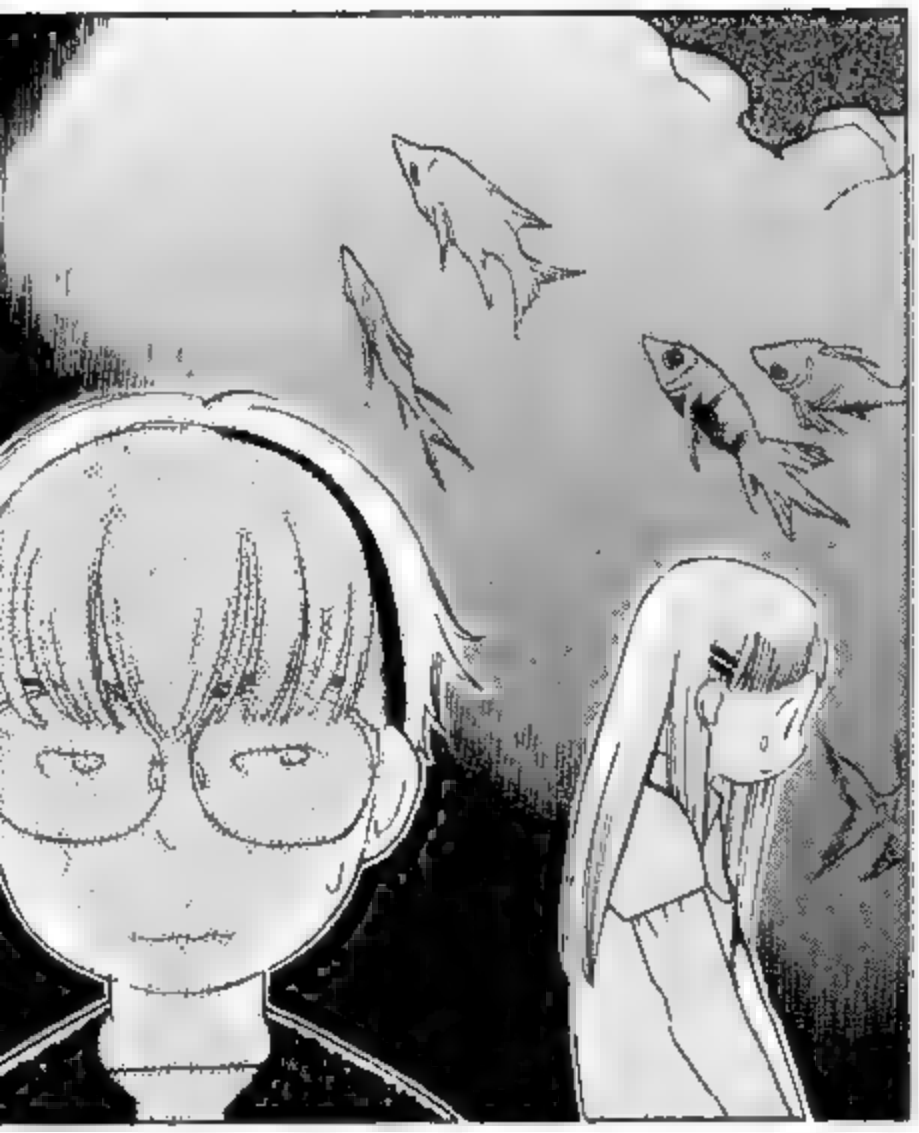

WHAT DO I THINK OF HIM?
ROOTS

...QUITE NICE.

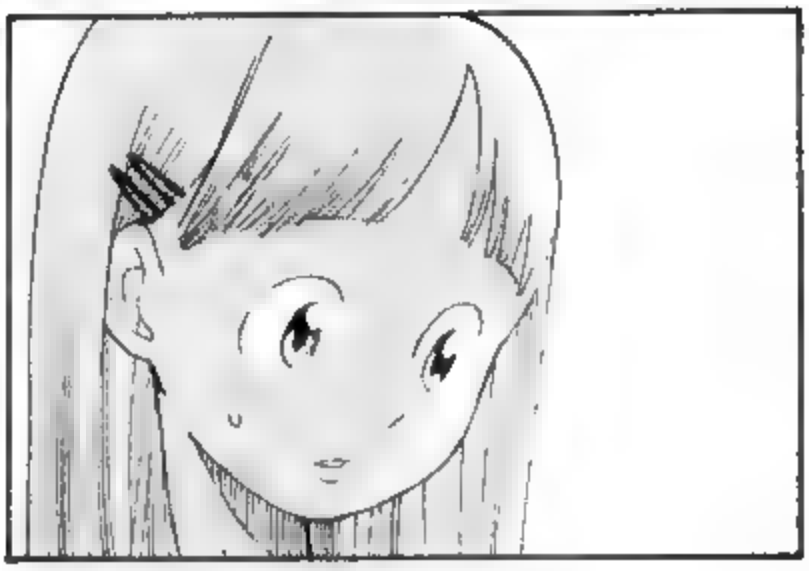

HE'S...


BUT...

ROOTS


YOUNGER BROTHER ...?

WHO IS?



WHO IS?
You said that already!

NITORI'S ...?

WHOSE?

Aww, COME ON!
THIS IS PISSING ME OFF!
HE'S A GUY! A GUY!

YOU'RE THE STUBBORN ONE!
EX-EXCUSE ME...

It's a lie!
YOU'RE STUB-BORN, huh?

IT'S NOT!
THAT'S A LIE!

WHY ARE YOU YELLING AT ME?
I'M SORRY, OK?
WELL, IT'S A COMPLICATED SITUATION!

...DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING.
...THAT I...
I'M REALLY SORRY ...

SEE...
I'M A GUY
TOO.

PLEASE FALL
IN LOVE WITH
MY SISTER...

PLEASE...

YOU...

YOU SAID THAT TO SEYA?!

YES.

GOD!

YOU MEDDLER!

Yeesh...

THAT'S WHY I HATE CHILDREN!

EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE NOT UNHAPPY WITH THE WAY THINGS TURNED OUT...

I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT!

COVERING UP YOUR OWN FEELINGS AND FORCING YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER ON HIM.

YOU'RE A COWARD AFTER ALL...

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DID THAT!

Uh...

YOU WERE SO HAPPY DRESSED UP AS A GIRL! YOU'RE JUST A...

YOU!

Oh, YOU'RE GETTING AGGRESSIVE.

I'M NOT A COWARD!

BUT YOU STOPPED YOURSELF FROM SAYING IT IN TIME, SO I'LL OVERLOOK IT.

I JUST... SORRY...

SORRY.

NOTHING.

JUST A WHAT?

I SHOULD NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THAT.

YOU JUST TRIED TO LEAVE A WOUND ON MY HEART THAT WOULD NOT HEAL IN MY LIFETIME.

MAKO-CHAN...

BYE...

I CALLED YOU AWFUL...

NO, I AM SORRY...

MY SISTER...

I SAID SOME TERRIBLE THINGS TODAY.

I'M SORRY, NITORIN.

I THOUGHT HE WAS COOL.

LISTEN...

IF HE STARTS TO LIKE YOUR SISTER, IT COULD TURN INTO SOMETHING ROMANTIC, RIGHT?

R-REALLY?

THOSE TWO HAVE GOT TO BE LOVERS.

Hey, LOOK!

SEE? THEY'RE HOLDING HANDS.

WITH WHOM?

AND WHAT WOULD IT BE LIKE...?

I WONDER IF IT'LL HAPPEN...

I WONDER IF WE'LL EVER GET A LOVER AND GO ON DATES LIKE THAT.

A coming-of-age story about the delicate psychology of children on the cusp of puberty.

放浪息子

HOUROU MUSUKO

CHAPTER 23: TAKATSUKI YOSHINO'S DETERMINATION

志村貴子

TAKAKO SHIMURA

NOW ON SALE: "Hourou Musuko" Vol. 1&2, "Boku wa, Onna no Ko," "Shikii no Juunin" Vol. 1-7

THIS IS YUKI-SAN WITHOUT HER WIG.

SORRY FOR COMING UNANNOUNCED.

NO PROBLEM. COME ON IN.

OH MY GOD!
WHY ARE YOU WEARING A SKIRT?!
BUT IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.

I'M TAKATSUKI YOSHINO.

SORRY TO INTRUDE.

THIS IS MY MOM.

THE DAUGHTER OF A FRIEND. I SAID I'D TAKE CARE OF HER TONIGHT.

Oh...

WHO'S THAT GIRL?

I HAVE TO LEAVE NOW.

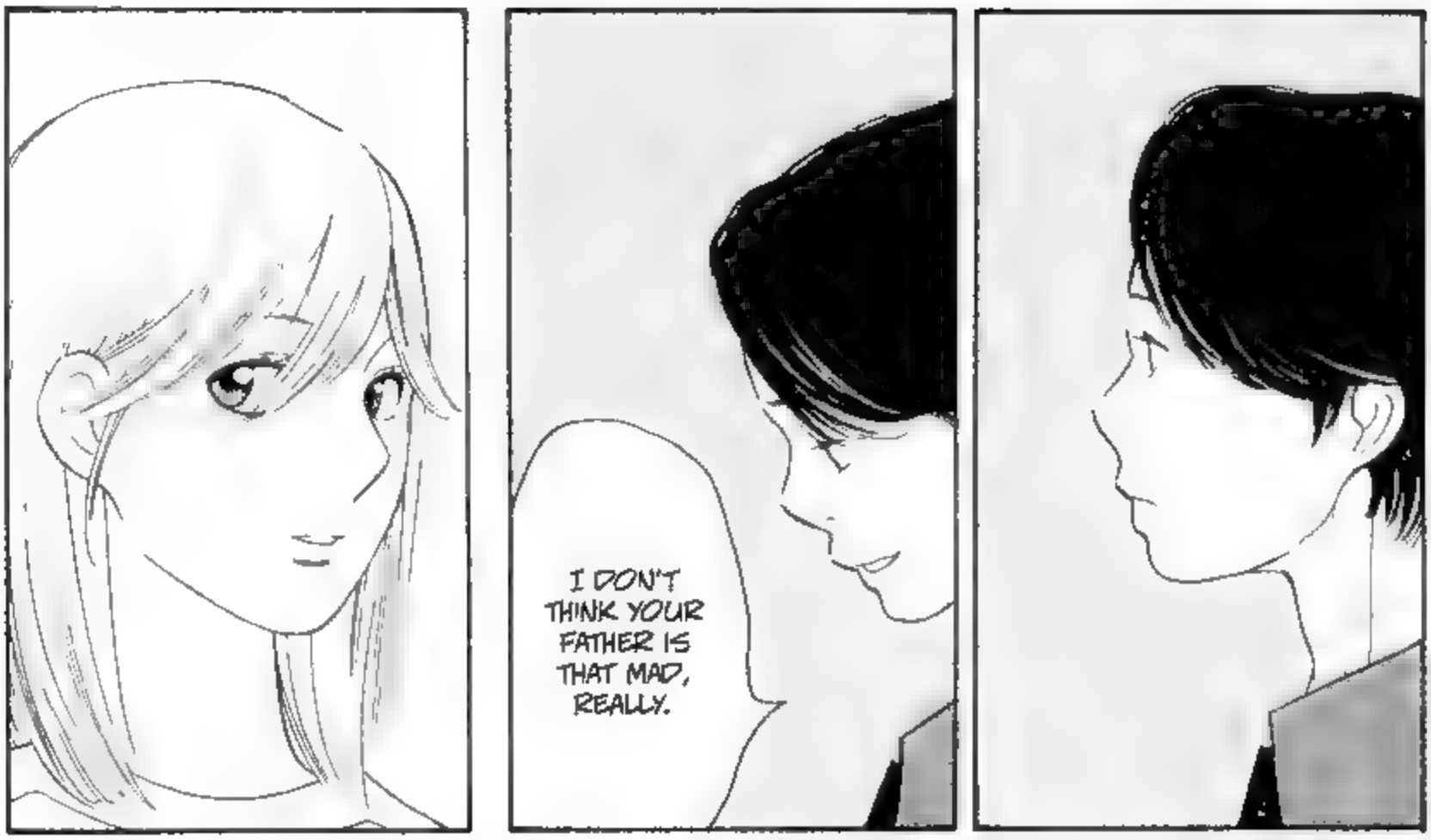
REALLY?

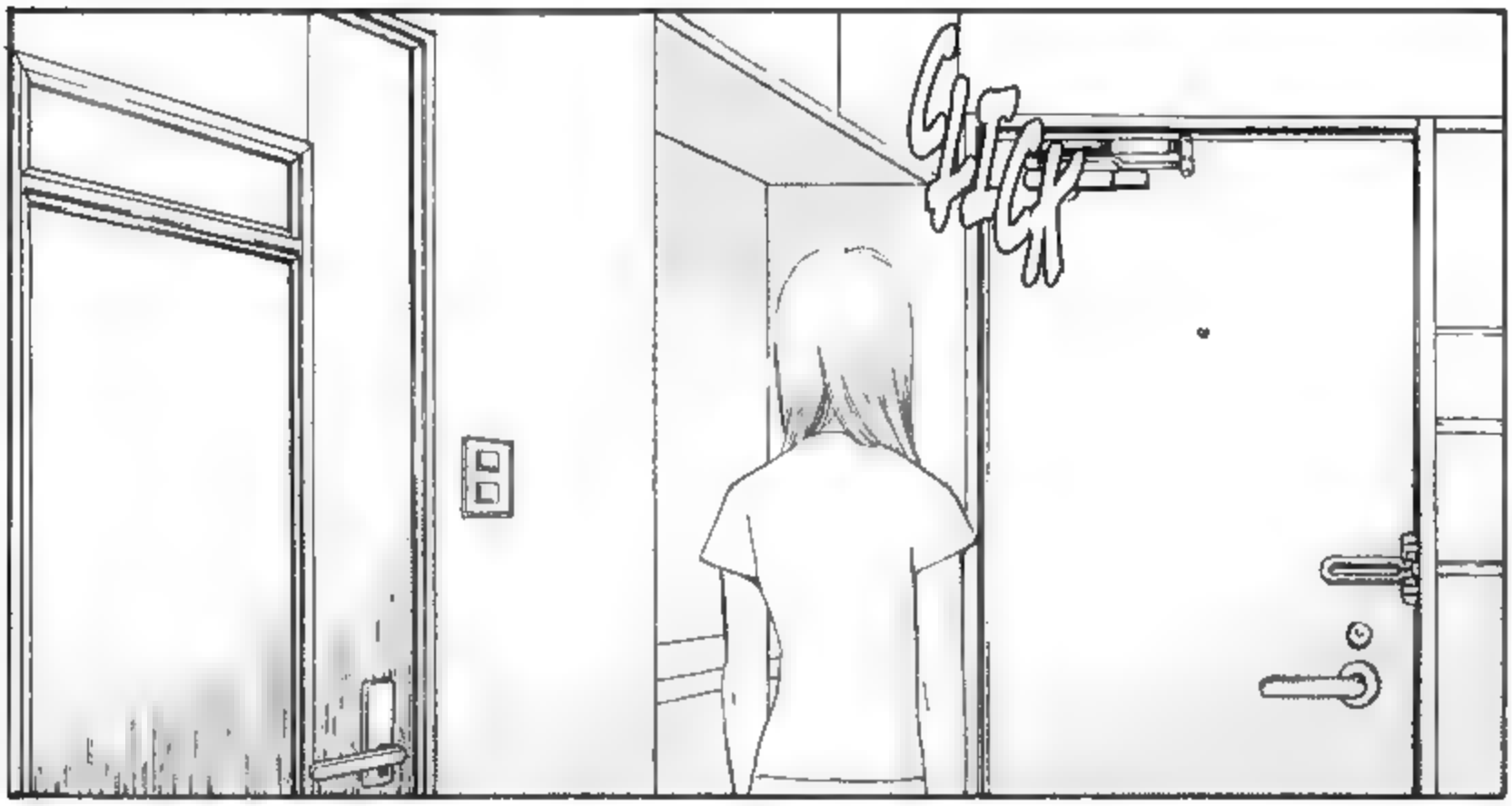
WHAT A NICE GIRL-- YOU CAN PROPERLY INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

TELL MY BROTHER AND AI-CHAN HELLO.

IT'S ALRIGHT. I TOOK MY TIME GETTING HERE.

HAVE THEM COME GET YOU.


I DON'T THINK YOUR FATHER IS THAT MAD, REALLY.
HE DOESN'T SAY THAT...
NOT HIM.
SO IS THAT WHY I WAS TOLD I SHOULDN'T COME HOME ANYMORE?
SEE YOU.
THAT'S HARSH.
YOU CAN'T FORGIVE ME, CAN YOU?


CLICK

I'LL HELP!
I'LL PUT ON TEA. I'VE GOT CAKE, TOO.

I'LL HELP WITH ANYTHING.
SO...
SO...

WHAT? THIS IS RARE.
POP
C'MON

SHE'S FINALLY GONE.

SURE, FOR HOWEVER LONG YOU WANT.

Ha La La

IT'S REALLY SERIOUS FOR YOU, huh?

PLEASE LET ME STAY HERE TONIGHT!

OK...

LET'S EAT. LET'S EAT.

WELL, WHATEVER ...

WHAT? DID YOU HAVE A FIGHT WITH YOUR MOM?

SWISH SWISH

LAYER CHEESE CAKE IS MY FAVORITE.

DID YOUR MOM BUY THIS?

YEP.

Awww, DON'T POUT.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT? YOU'RE CUTE!

YOU LOOK GOOD IN THAT SKIRT.

...

OH MY...

THAT WAS SO CUTE!

SO GIRL LIKE!

WHAT COLOR ARE YOUR PANTIES?

EEEK

NO! NO WAY!

IT'S OK. I'LL SHOW YOU MINE, YOU SHOW ME YOURS.

GOT THAT RIGHT.

WEIRD...

IT'S...

I THOUGHT WE'D GO IN TOGETHER.

BUT YOU'VE GOT YOUR GUARD UP.

SWOOSH

Huh...? WHAAAT?!

SQUEAK

NEVER MIND. I WAS SAYING IT SO YOU COULDN'T HEAR ME.

AND THEN LET ME SATISFY MYSELF WITH THOSE BUDDING LITTLE BREASTS.

SWOOSH

COME OOON, LET'S SHOWER TOGETHER!

WANT SOME?

Huh? NO WAY!

ORANGE JUICE FOR YOU.

BEER FOR ME.

PSST!

A COLD ONE!

DAKEN BREWERY COMPANY

DAKEN

LAGER BEER

タケンラガービール

BLEAH

IT'S OK, IT'S OK. JUST A SIP.

I HAD MY FIRST BEER IN 6TH GRADE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

CUTTING THE BEER WITH ORANGE JUICE.

Ha ha ha

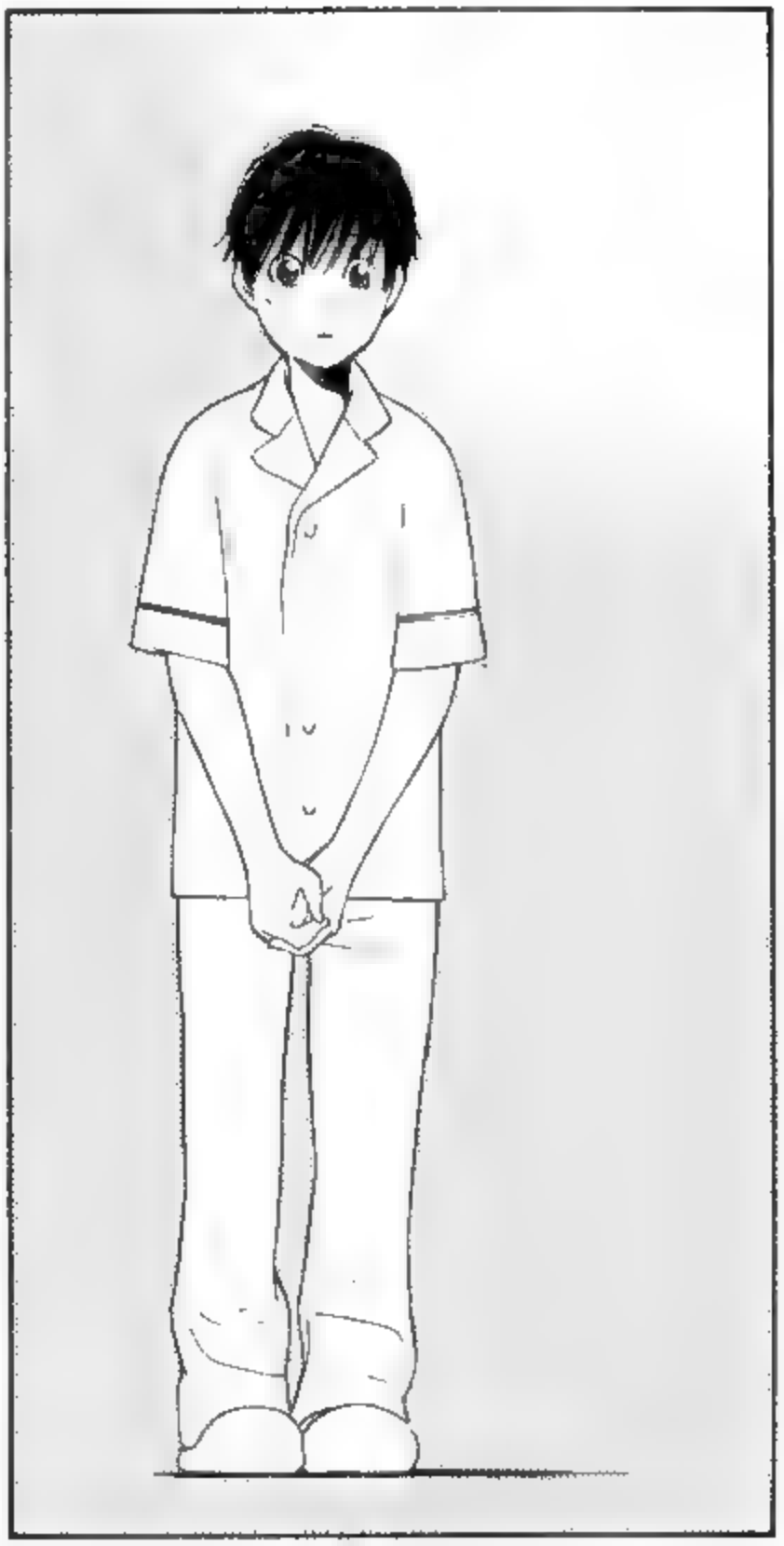
IT'S OK, IT'S OK. LET'S SLEEP TOGETHER!

IT'S EMBAR-RASSING.

Ah!

GASP

Hehehe! IT'S OK, LITTLE GIRL!



WHAT DID I THINK ...?

Hey, WHAT DID YOU THINK OF MY MOM?

Ah, SO WARM...

YOU SMELL NICE.

KNOW WHY?

THAT'S RIGHT. MY MOM CAN'T LOOK AT ME.

Wow... YOU REALLY PAID ATTENTION.

THAT SHE DIDN'T LOOK AT YOU VERY MUCH.

THAT'S WHY.

BECAUSE I WANTED TO BE A GIRL.

WANTED IT SO BAD.

...

SO NICE. SMOOTH SKIN.

WELL, YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT YOUTH, *hmm?*

BUT YOU'RE A REAL GIRL, YOSHINO-CHAN...

WHEN I SEE A REAL GIRL LIKE YOU, I THINK "THAT'S SO NICE."

SMELLING THIS NICE...

THIS SLIM, THIS SOFT...

HUG

Woh!

HUFF

HUFF

YUKI-SAN... IT HURTS...

SORRY! COULDN'T HELP MYSELF.

MY BAD! YOUR FACE WAS REALLY RED!

...

BATH-ROOM.

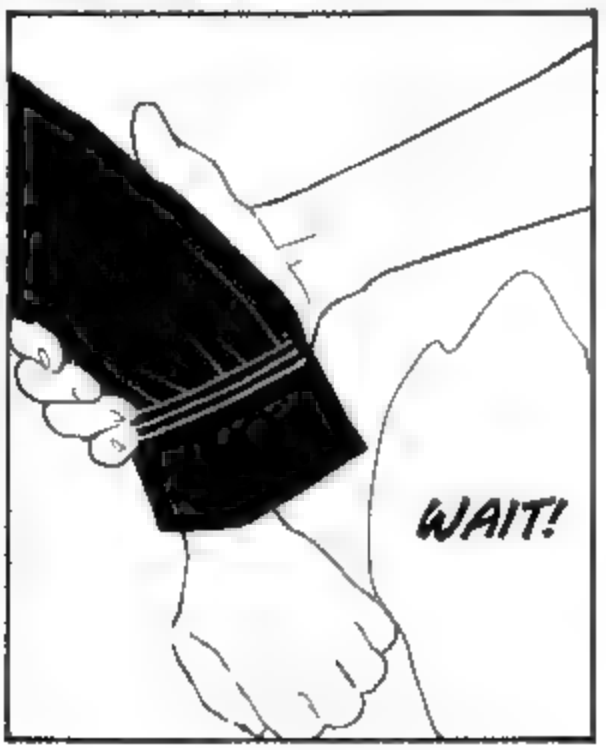
WHAT?!
NO WAY!

CLICK CLICK
SLAM

DID I GET HER MAD, PERHAPS?

WAIT...

DID I GROSS YOU OUT BECAUSE I WAS HANGING ALL OVER YOU?
I'M REALLY SORRY!
ARE YOU MAD BECAUSE I LAUGHED?


WAIT!

Whoa, YOU'RE BACK TO GUY MODE?

I DON'T KNOW...

Sniff Sniff

I DON'T KNOW, BUT...

I'M NOT SURE, BUT I WAS...

A BIT SCARED ...

ANYWAY, LET'S GET INSIDE.

THE NIGHTS ARE STILL COLD.

SNIFF

GOSH, YOU'RE SUCH A DELICATE KID.

FORGIVE ME.

I'M SORRY, OK? I WON'T TOUCH YOU ANYMORE.

VNN...N

DING

BUT YOU WERE STILL A LITTLE SCARED, RIGHT?

IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T LIKE YOU.

I KNOW, I KNOW.

YOU'RE A GIRL AFTER ALL. I'M SORRY.

Oh, GEEZ! YOU'RE SUCH A DIFFICULT KID!

EVERYONE SAYS THAT TO ME...

JUST GROW UP THE WAY YOU WANT!

EVERYONE READ THE EXCHANGE DIARY.

NOW EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT ME AND NITORI-KUN...

...

SOB

I SEE...

THAT'S HEAVY.

THAT'D MAKE YOU CRY.

[Sign: Yoshida Boutique]

吉田洋品店

PROBABLY MY FIRST YEAR OF JUNIOR HIGH...

I'M NOT SURE WHEN IT WAS...

MY FAMILY RAN A SMALL CLOTHING STORE.

[Ad: Uniforms on Sale]

学生服
お取扱い中

MY MOM TOOK TO HER BED AFTER THAT.

"JUST FROM THAT"... REALLY!

THAT'S SO SWEET...

YEAH, JUST FROM THAT!

JUST FROM THAT?!

SHE TOOK TO HER BED?

Ha ha ha

HE HE

HE HE HE...

HE
HE
HE
...

...WHO THEY'RE LAUGHING AT...

IT'S NITORI-KUN...

WIPE

SNIFF

...

I'M UP!

Oh...

REALLY.

You don't have to get mad about it

YO-CHAN, GET UP ALREADY!

I'LL APOLOGIZE TO CHIBA-SAN.

AND THEN...

SAY "GOOD MORNING" PROPERLY.

I'LL STOP BY NITORI-KUN'S HOME...

...THE CLOTHES I WANT!

AND I'LL WEAR ...

AND OF COURSE, MY PERIOD ...

DAMN IT!

SPLOSH SPLOSH SPLOSH SSSSH

BRR

24 It Keeps Getting Weirder

KAWHAM

ONII-CHAN*!
GET UP!

* "Big Brother."

GIMME A BREAK...

IT'S MORNING! GET UP!

RIKU! GET YOUR ASS UP!

RYOU! DON'T KICK THE DOOR!

RIKU, DO YOU WANT JAM ON THIS?

"LOVE"...

I WANT SOME!

WHAT IS "LOVE"?

GOTTA FEEL GOTTA FEEL

P.PE DOWN, RYOU!

YOU'RE A GUY. WHAT'S UP WITH YOU BEING SO CUTE...?!
sniff...

THANKS_

HERE.

Smooch——…

…

I WANT THAT DAY BACK!

Aaah…

Oops, I ATE YOUR TOAST.

S'OK. NOT HUNGRY.

Hey you brat!

Oh, Rikuchan. Good morning!

I'M LEAVING.

Have a good day!

Squeak

Ryou you get going too!

NITORI!

RUSTLE RUSTLE RUSTLE

I DON'T GIVE A CRAP ABOUT THAT!

Oh, NO!

THE PAPERS!

TSK!

YOU BETTER WATCH OUT, MAKIN' A FOOL OF ME!

Maho, you OK?

What's up with him?

WHAP

SLIDE

THAT HURT! WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT FOR?!

Whoa! SEYA MADE MAHO CRY!

WHAT ?!

WAIAH

DID YOU CRY, TOO?

THAT WAS UNFAIR, CRYING LIKE THAT...

Sniff...

I DON'T CRY...

Gah!

WHOA

YOU'RE WEIRD OR SOME-THING!

YOU TWO... SIBLINGS...

SORRY ...

THWACK

YOUR BROTHER ...

IS HE SICK OR SOMETHING?

IT'S TOO WEIRD! HE'S A GUY AND THAT CUTE!

YOU BITCH!

I SAW YOUR PANTIES!

DON'T CALL IT SICK!

MAHO? DON'T YOU HAVE TO PREPARE?

GRRRR

WHAT?! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

ISN'T YOUR PHOTO SESSION EARLY TOMORROW?

YEAH.

IT'S NOT REALLY A PHOTO SESSION.

JUST A GET-TOGETHER.

TO BE HONEST, WE'LL JUST BE FOLLOWING AROUND OUR SEMPAI* MODELS AND LEARNING.

BUT THAT'S IMPORTANT, RIGHT?

GIMME A BREAK! MAIKO-CHAN WON'T EVEN BE THERE.

*In this case, **sempai** means the models who started with the agency before Maho was accepted.

YEAH, YOU WERE ACCEPTED WITH ME, AFTER ALL.

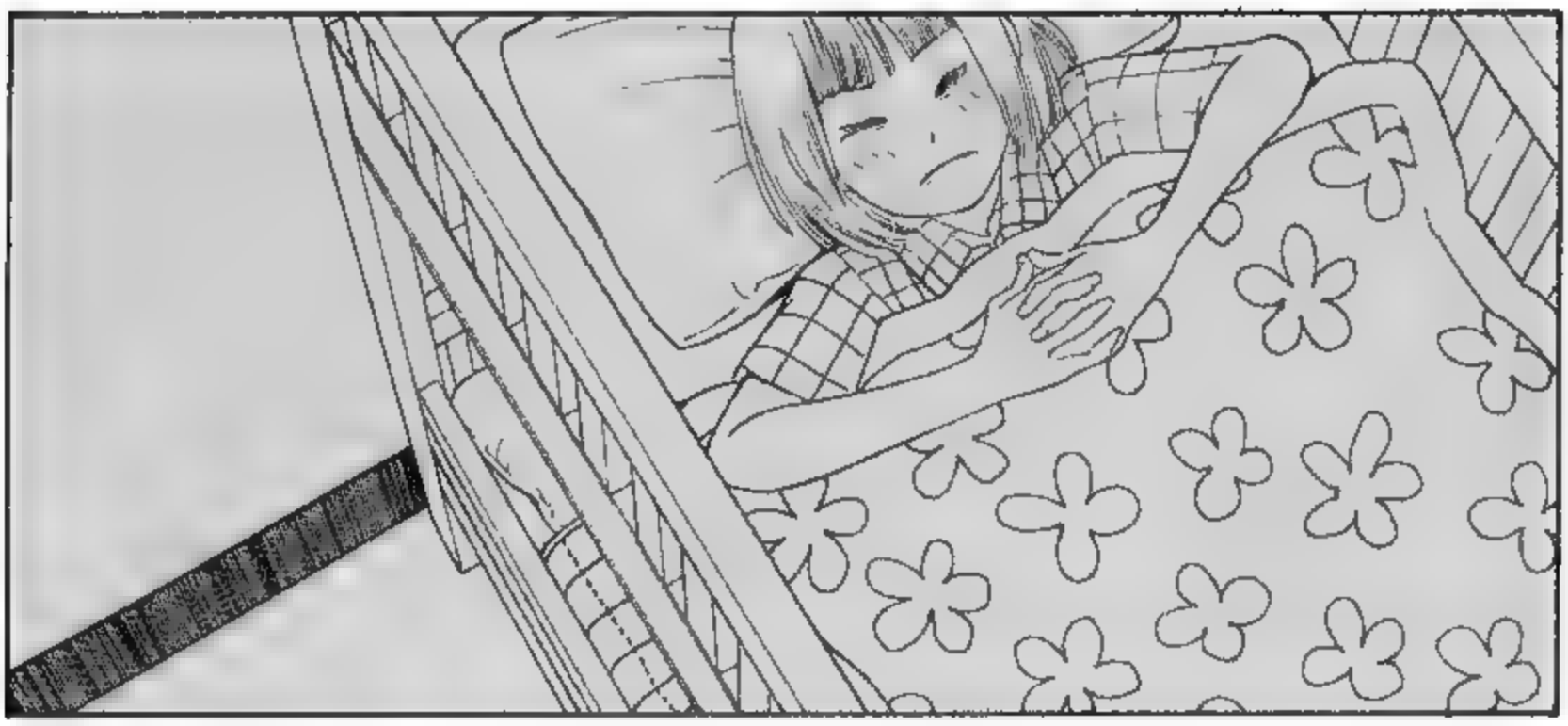
CAN'T BE HELPED.

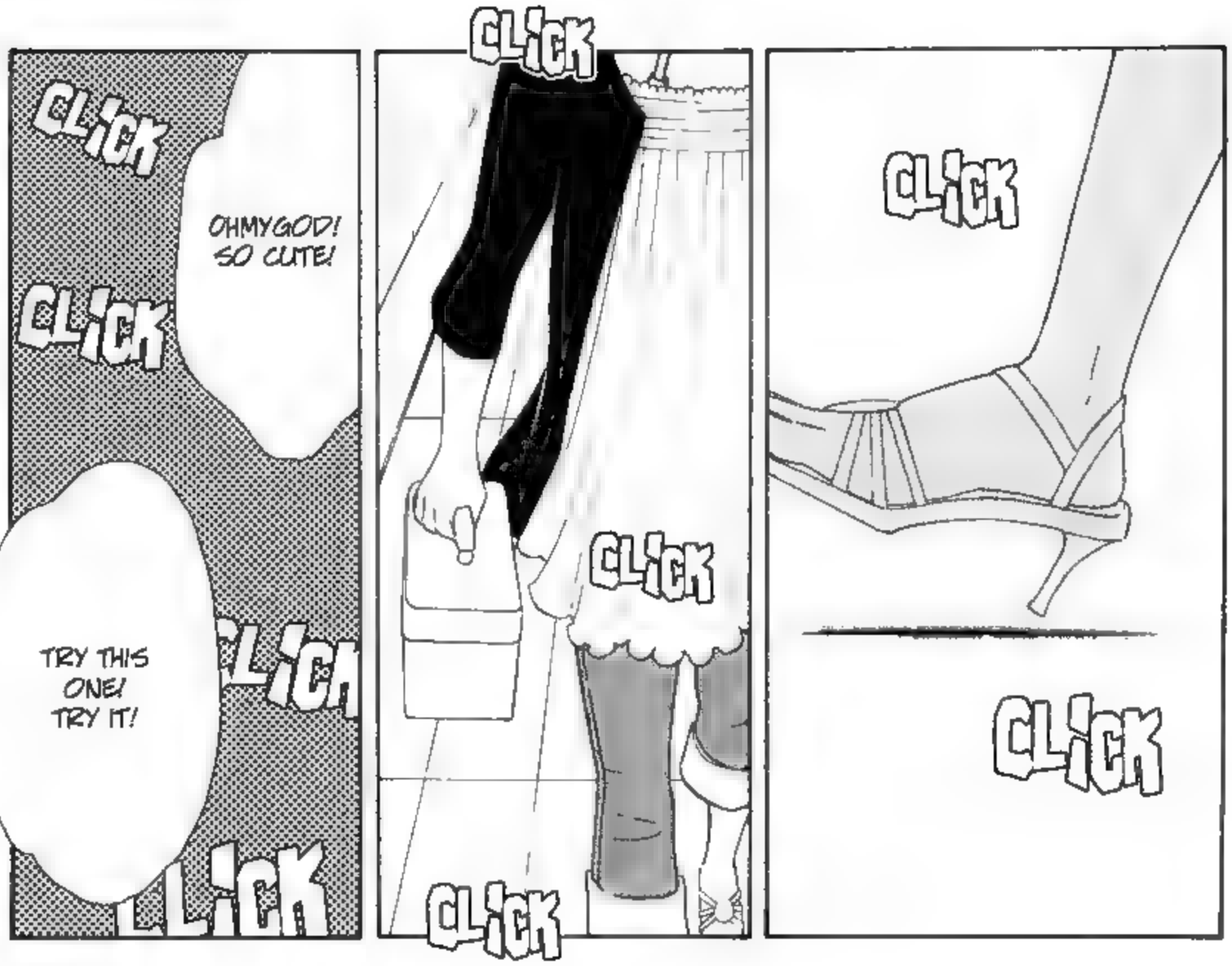
SHUU, YOU BETTER GET READY, TOO.

I CAN GO TOO?

click

I'M TURN.NG OFF THE LIGHT...




CLICK
OHMYGOD! SO CUTE!
CLICK
CLICK
TRY THIS ONE! TRY IT!
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

Oh...

GOOD MORNING!

GO-

WHY IS THERE A BOY HERE?

...

WHY DID YOU LET HIM IN HERE?

BUT THIS IS THE GIRLS' DRESSING ROOM.

I KNOW THAT.

Oh... HE'S THE NEW GUY.

Hey...

AREN'T YOU ASHAMED, LOOKING LIKE THAT?

FLASH
FLASH
FLASH
AFTER SAYING ALL THAT STUFF, HOW CAN SHE BE SMILING LIKE THAT NOW?
SCARY...
Hey.
Hey.
I'M STILL IN SHOCK...
ME TOO.
I WAS A FAN OF ANNA'S, BUT...
I WAS SUPER-HAPPY TO SEE HER IN PERSON, BUT...
TELL ME YOUR CELL NUMBER.
ME TOO! ME TOO!
AND YOU TOO, MAHO!

BUT HEY, DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE MAIKO-CHAN?

YEAH, I DO, I DO!

WE CAN TALK!

YOU GOTTA GET ONE!

WHAT? SERI-OUSLY?

WE DON'T HAVE CELL PHONES.

BUT SHE'S FILMING A MOVIE, SO IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE NOW.

YEAH, SHE'S A STAR!

GUYS!

ARE YOU JUST HERE AS SIGHT-SEERS?

...

DIDN'T YOU COME HERE TO WORK?

ARE YOU STUPID?

A - 1

ANNA'S SO SCARY!

You could say that

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S 'CAUSE YOU NEWBIES SAID YOU WANNA MEET MAIKO-CHAN?

YEAH!

WHAT A DOWNER.

I SAW IT.

SHE'S LEFT ALREADY.

IDIOT! NOT SO LOUD!

SHUU, LET'S GO HOME.

OK

BUT I DON'T WANT TO MAKE WAVES...

I THINK ANNA HIT THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.

Yeah, and then she...

Seri-ously!

She Pisses me off!

Man!

Y-YEAH.

BUT I CAN'T STAND THOSE OTHER GIRLS EITHER.

SUEHIRO ANNA PISSES ME OFF.

I PRAY THAT MAIKO-CHAN, AT LEAST, IS AN ANGEL.

MAIKO
I WANT A CELL PHONE...
Wow! SUPER CUTE!
JUST LIKE A REAL GIRL!
COME ON, TRY THIS ON NEXT!

BUT...

BUT...

...SHE'S GONNA GET MAD.

IF ANNA-CHAN SEES ME LIKE THIS...

WHAT AM I GONNA DO?

...

Camera!

Camera!

Hmm...

HE LIKES THAT KINDA STUFF.

SO TALL!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO RESCUE HIM?

Oh...

I'M SATOU TAMAKI.

NITORI MAHO.

EXCUSE ME..

Um...

WELL, AT LEAST THERE'S ONE STRAIGHT-FORWARD GIRL...

BWAH

HA HA HA HA HA

What's with that?

I'M GOING TO THE BATH-ROOM!

WHY DO I HAVE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

MAN...

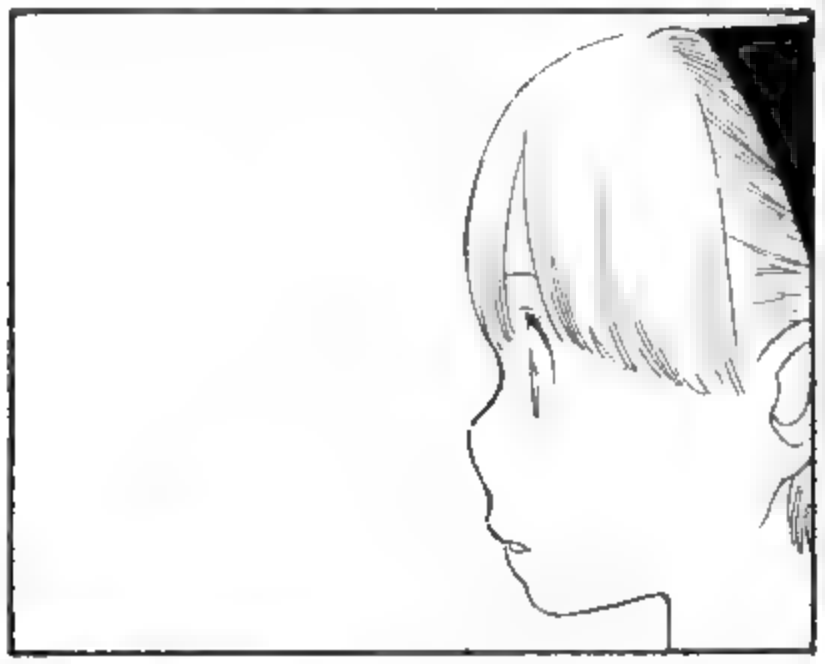
YOU THINK HE'S GONNA USE THE URINALS LIKE THAT?

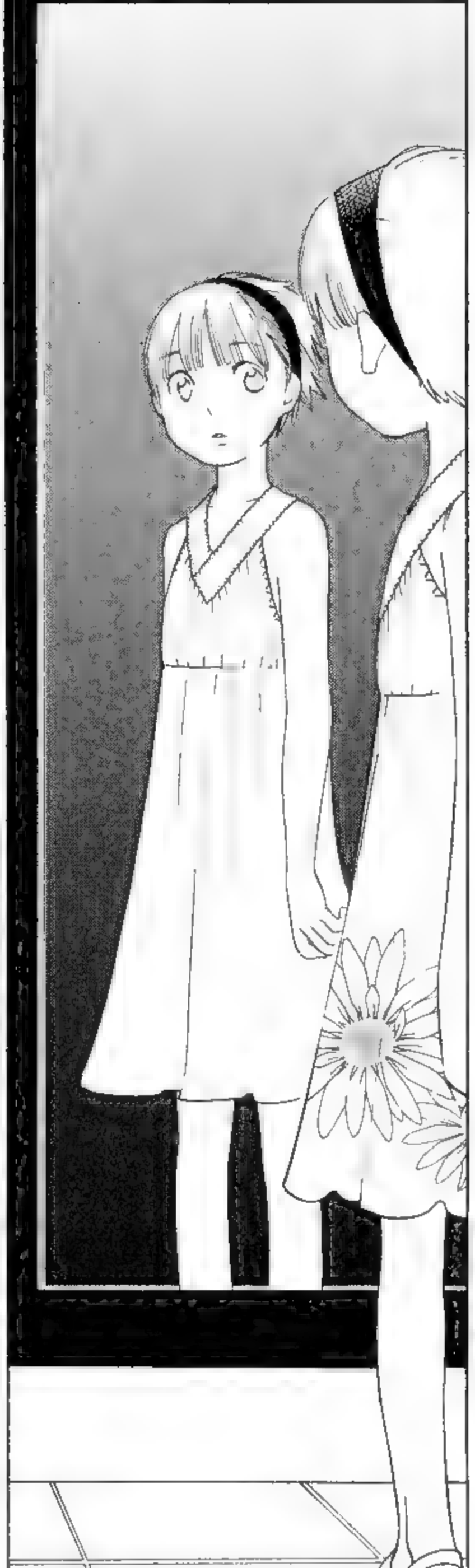
HE'S SOOO CUTE!

I WANT A LITTLE BROTHER LIKE THAT, TOO.

Yikes!

Hyee Hyee





YOU WERE CHECKING YOURSELF OUT JUST NOW.

YOURSELF IN DRAG...

Um...

SUPER FREAK.

I'M GONNA PEE!

FLASH

FLASH

BETTER TAKE A PICTURE OF THE FREAK.

25 Everyone's Song

{Sign. Bread and Cakes / Ariga Bakery}

I'M GOING!

Ah, MAKO! MAKO!

A PARENT WHO RECOM-MENDS EATING ON THE GO*...

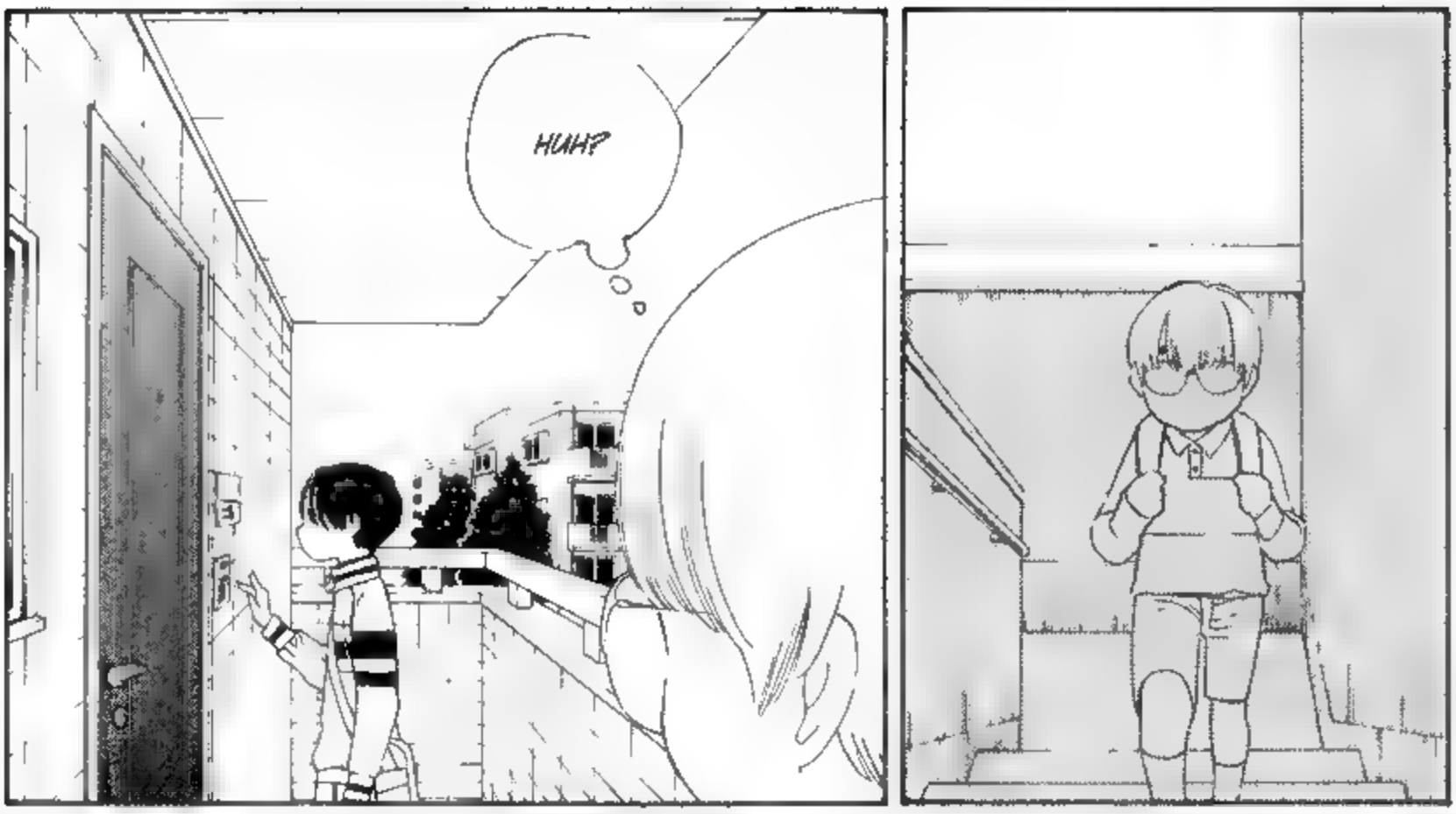
munch munch

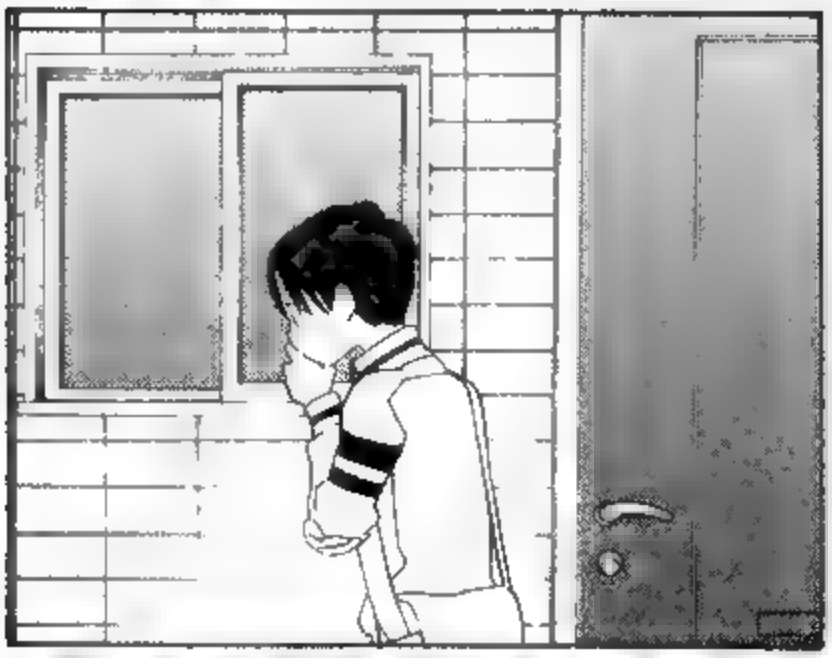
Hmm ...

MAYBE I SHOULD STOP BY NITORIN'S PLACE.

EAT THIS ON THE RUN, AT LEAST!

*Eating while walking is considered poor manners in Japan.


HUH?



THAT'S...

DID YOU COME TO SEE NITORIN?

YEAH ...

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

WHA?

[Plate: Nitori]

DING DONG

THEN WHY DON'T YOU RING THE BELL?

I'M SORRY!

G-

GOOD--

SORRY ...

I TORE THE NOTEBOOK...

HMM ooo

BUT AN EXCHANGE DIARY ISN'T SOMETHING YOU HAND OVER IN FRONT OF OTHERS.

WELL, IT'S NICE YOU TWO MADE UP.

THAT...

THAT'S RIGHT.

WHY NOT START AGAIN?

MAKO-CHAN, YOU WANT TO DO IT TOO?

Huh?

WE COULD DO IT AGAIN!

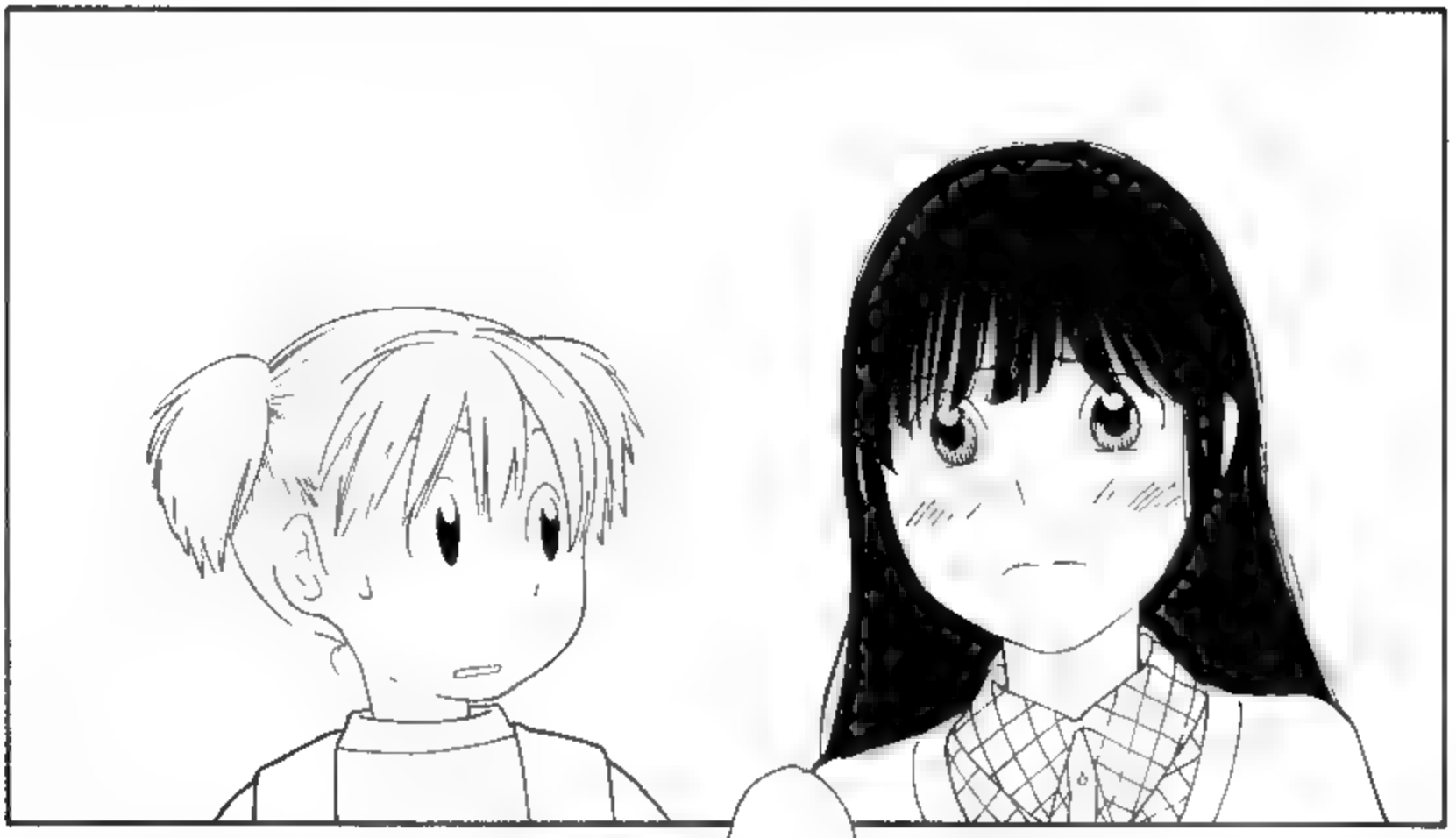
THEY'RE NOT GONNA LEARN..

...

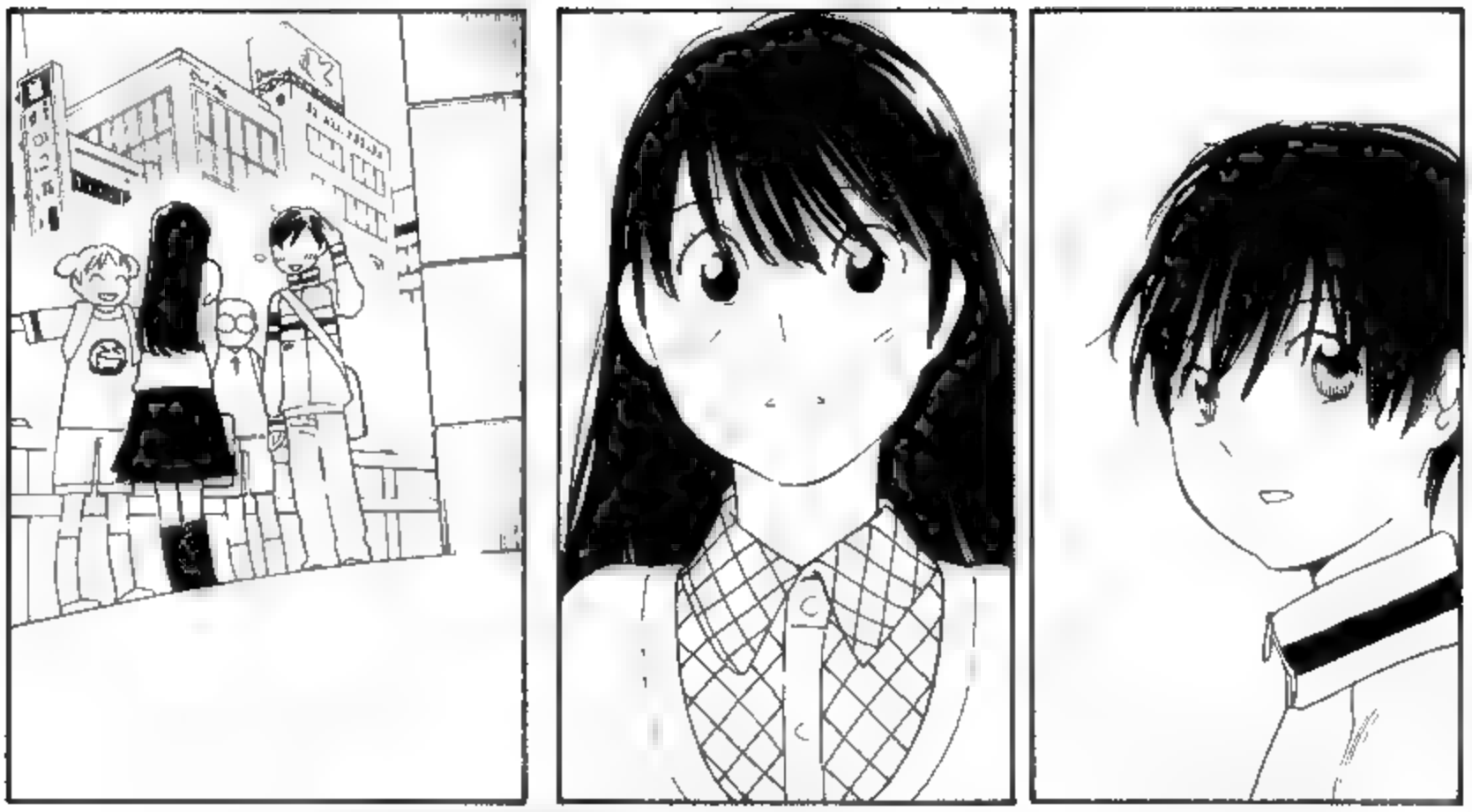
BUT THANKS FOR THE INVITE.

NO PROB-LEM.

I DON'T DO CHILDISH THINGS LIKE THAT!



Wah!
I... SOME-HOW...
I...
THAT'S GREAT...
TAKATSUKI-SAN AND NITORI-KUN...
...ARE FRIENDS AGAIN...
TAKATSUKI-KUUUUUN!
Whoa!
BUT...
SAORIN, YOU SHOULD MAKE UP TOO.



THINGS SEEM TO BE GOING WELL...

OR SO I THOUGHT...
BUT LIFE DOESN'T GO SMOOTHLY.

CAN I TAKE THESE PASTRIES?

SURE.

BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

Wow!

WE HAVE ÉCLAIRS TODAY.

YEAH, SHE SCARED ME...

SUEHIRO ANNA SOUNDS LIKE A SCARY PERSON.

ARE YOU IN BETTER SPIRITS?

YEAH.

BUT, ANNA-CHAN IS...

OTHERWISE, YOU'LL END UP SAYING STUFF LIKE "I WON'T WEAR GIRLS' CLOTHES ANYMORE."

BUT LISTEN...

YOU SHOULD TELL PEOPLE WHAT YOU THINK.

EVEN IF WE'RE FREAKS LIKE SUEHIRO ANNA SAYS...

AND EVEN IF!

Even if...?

I COULDN'T STAND THAT!

WE CAN'T LIVE OUR LIVES TRYING TO PLEASE SUEHIRO ANNA, RIGHT?

YEAH ...

Y-YOU'RE RIGHT.

YOU CAN'T JUST BE IMPRESSED WITH MY WORDS, YOU HAVE TO TAKE THEM TO HEART!

C'MON, NITORIN!

YOU'RE SO COOL!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?!

MAKO-CHAN...

TODAY'S MENU IS A CHEESE OMELETTE WITH VEGETABLE SALAD, CARROT SOUP, AND ASIAN PEARS IN SYRUP. DOES THIS MEET WITH YOUR SATISFACTION?

YOU LIKE CARROTS?

YEAH.

MAKOTO-SAMA! MAKOTO-SAMA!

KNOCK KNOCK

WHAT IS IT?

YOUR MOM'S INTERESTING.

NO WAY! NOT AT ALL!

TAP TAP TAP

ALL RIGHT, PLEASE PROCEED.

VERY WELL.

I'VE GOT YOU PINNED!

Whoa! SMACK

Stop already YAWN you nut!

SHE'S REALLY VIOLENT!

I MEAN, LIKE YESTERDAY...

THAT KINDA STUFF REALLY SETS A BAD EXAMPLE.

Hmm...

NITORIN ...

THANKS ...

SHE FALLS VICTIM TO MY MOM, SO SHE'S A LITTLE BEAT UP, BUT I'LL SHARE HER.

SHE'S BEEN WITH ME THE LONGEST.

WHAAAAT?
I WANNA GO!

WHY ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE TO GO?

SASA-CHAN, YOU'RE TOO LOUD!

I ALSO HAVE SOMETHING I WANT TO SAY TO SUEHIRO ANNA.

I'M JUST GOING TO DELIVER A WORD OF WARNING TO SUEHIRO ANNA.

SEE? YOU ALWAYS GET LIKE THAT.

I DIDN'T COME HERE TO GET INSULTED!

I DOUBT IF YOU COULD LET IT GO WITH JUST ONE WORD.

I THINK YOU'D SOON LOSE YOUR SENSES.

IF YOU CONSIDER NITORI-KUN, I THINK IT MIGHT BE BEST IF NO ONE GOES.

WHAT?

SO THAT'S WHY IT'S ME.

GULP

IF SHE THINKS POORLY ABOUT NITORI-KUN, IT MIGHT JUST MAKE MATTERS WORSE.

AND IF THINGS WERE REALLY THAT BAD, HE WOULDN'T GO THERE, RIGHT...?

IT'S A SOUND ARGUMENT. I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING BACK.

CRAP...

SORRY.

BUT I CAN'T DENY MY CURIOSITY WAS PIQUED.

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT YOU...

I GUESS I WANTED TO PEEP IN AT THAT SHINING WORLD.

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

NITORIN ...

LET'S GO TOGETHER.

MAKO-CHAN...

SEEMS LIKE SUEHIRO ANNA'S REALLY STRICT ABOUT WORK.

IT MAY BE POURING OIL ON THE FIRE.

I THINK TAKATSUKI-SAN'S RIGHT WITH WHAT SHE SAID.

NITORIN, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.

Stop that!
If you're not gonna eat that, gimme!
Hey!
AL

Okaaay
Dinner
TV

Get me up at five tomorrow.
Ok? That's rough
Ok
That's right...

ONEE-CHAN...

DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE A MODEL?

HUH?

Um...

HMM?

I JUST WANTED TO MEET MAIKO-CHAN...

NO...

YOU SOUND JUST LIKE MOM!

-P-Don't say that

YEAH...

SUEHIRO ANNA... SHE WAS PISSED, *hun?*

I WONDER IF MAIKO-CHAN WOULD HAVE GOTTEN MAD...

YAAAAN

GOOD MORN-ING.

SHUU, WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO? QUIT?

ARE YOU GOING?

IF I QUIT NOW, ANNA WILL LAUGH AT ME!

WE'RE OFF!

DON'T BLAME ME IF THEY TEASE YOU!

OK, I'LL GO TOO.

MAAAAN...

Hey, SHUU-KUN!

IT'S SHUU-KUN.

Oh...

DON'T TREAT MY BROTHER LIKE A TOY!

SO YOU WERE MAD AFTER ALL.

Hmph!

WHAT'S WITH HER?

YEAH!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DRAGGED HIM HERE, RIGHT?

YOU REALLY PISS ME OFF!

YOU'VE GOT NO TALENT, JUST A PERISHABLE SHELL.

BRINGING YOUR BROTHER TO AN AUDITION, HOW STUPID!

REALLY, WOULDN'T JUST HER BROTHER BE FINE?

WHA...

YOU GUYS? WHY...?

I MEAN, EVERYONE LAUGHED ABOUT IT LATER!

SEE? WE DON'T NEED YOU.

ALL THE SUDDEN ...

DON'T ...

DON'T PICK ON MY SISTER!

Kya hah hah hah hah

Ahaha! Dumb!

Yeah, seriously uncool!

I mean, seriously?

Anyway, you hungry?

Majority rules!

Yeah, I am!

WHAT'S ALL THE SHOUTING?

GOOD-NESS!

G-

MAIKO... CHAN?!

Sasa-chan, One Morning

JUST WEAR THESE!

MOM! CLOTHES! CLOTHES!

Geez! IT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T PREPARE THE NIGHT BEFORE!

KANAKO!

JUST WHAT DO I WANT TO WEAR?

I'VE GOT TO GROW UP TOO...

IS MY USUAL STUFF OK?

MY MOM PICKS MY CLOTHES FOR ME.

I NEVER HAVE TO WORRY.

Kanako! Hurry up! Yoshino-chan'll be here any minute!

EVERYONE IS SO COOL.

HAVING THEIR OWN TASTE IN CLOTHES...

Geez, it's like this every single morning!

AH, MY BRAIN'S ALL ITCHY!

Sasa-chaaan!

JUST WHAT DO I WANT TO BE?

WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO I WANT TO BECOME?

THINK, KANAKO!

IS THIS OK? REALLY?

DON'T I HAVE ANYTHING ELSE?

End